

women because they don't have to spend as much time taking care of children and elderly family members. State GOP Chair Jane Timken said such criticism was "ironic," given that she was elected as head of the party after raising close to \$3 million for Republicans.

= 9 **Gay friendly:** The national LGBT advocacy group Human Rights Campaign has endorsed Rep. Nickie Antonio over Rep. Martin Sweeney in the Democratic primary for Senate District 23. In a release, the group said while it rarely endorses candidates ahead of a primary, Antonio – currently the only openly gay Ohio state lawmaker – has been a relentless champion of equality and fairness in Ohio."

## = 9 **Stories We're Talking About**

**All in the family:** State Rep. Martin Sweeney's daughter Bride Rose Sweeney has filed to take over the Cleveland Democrat's House District 14 seat. And as cleveland.com's Mark Naymik reports, "she is in excellent position to win" over three primary challengers. One of those opponents, Rick Raley, claims Bride is ineligible to run because she's lived outside the district for years, a charge Bride denies.

= 9 **Dayton drama:** State Rep. Niraj Antani has accused his fellow Dayton-area Republican, Rep. Jim Butler, of recruiting Miamisburg Vice Mayor Sarah Clark to challenge Antani, in the primary, according to the Dayton Daily News' Lynn Hulsey. Butler and Clark denied the accusation, with Clark saying she believes it's the opening salvo in an expected 2020 primary between Antani and Butler for term-limited State Sen. Peggy Lehner's seat.

= 9

**Toledo War:** "Former state officeholder Mark Wagoner Jr. is claiming to have nearly matched political rival Jon Stainbrook in recruiting candidates for the battle to elect a new chairman of the Lucas County Republican Party," writes the Toledo Blade's Mark Reiter. "The question now is how many of the potential 276 precinct committee hopefuls will get elected in the May 8 primary for the opportunity to vote for chairmanship of the party."

= 9

**Think Theis:** On the latest episode of cleveland.com's "Ohio Matters"



podcast, Progress Ohio Executive Director Sandy Theis offers insight and stories about her nearly 40 years as both a dogged statehouse reporter and a progressive activist.

= 9

**On the air:** The political ads have started in the crowded special election for Ohio's 12th congressional district. Carol O'Brien, one of 11 Republicans seeking Pat Tiberi's former seat, is now airing a one-minute radio ad in the Columbus market labeling her a "constitutional conservative" and touting her work as Delaware County prosecutor, according to the Columbus Dispatch's Jessica Wehrman.

= 9 **You're fired:** Democratic gubernatorial candidate Richard Cordray tells the Dispatch's Darrel Rowland that if he had stayed at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, President Donald Trump would have fired him after last week's candidate filing deadline had passed. "The only reason he would have survived even that long is that Trump was heeding Ohio Republicans' request not to make him a martyr for the governor's race," Rowland writes.

= 9 **Schoolyard fight:** State Sen. Joe Schiavoni went after Democratic gubernatorial rival Dennis Kucinich for taking three years to criticize the 2015 "Youngstown Plan," which may lead to the privatization of the city school district, according to the Youngstown Vindicator. Schiavoni: "This is how politicians work. They figure out which issues get you upset, then they promise to fix everything. Everyone's telling you what they'll do. You should look for the candidate who's already doing it."

= 9 **Knee problems:** Democratic gubernatorial hopeful Bill O'Neill came under fire Saturday from Cordray and others during a Black Votes Matter forum in Columbus over O'Neill's disapproval of NFL players who take a knee during the National Anthem to protest police violence against minorities. The Dispatch's Marty Schladen has more.

## = 9 **Full Disclosure**

= 9

Five things we learned about Euclid Democratic state Rep. Kent Smith's May 15 financial disclosure.



= 9 1. He only listed one job in 2016 -- state representative -- from which he earned \$65,584.

= 9

2. He has investments in the Ohio State Public Employees Retirement System and the School Employees Retirement System of Ohio.

= 9

3. He owed at least \$1,000 each to Ally Bank and Capital One.

= 9 4. The state reimbursed him \$7,748 for mileage between home and Columbus.

= 9 5. He also racked up \$700 in travel expenses from the National Caucus of Environmental Legislators.

## = 9 **On The Move**

= 9 Democratic gubernatorial candidate Rich Cordray announced he has hired Nelson Devezin as his campaign political director. Devezin has been the Ohio Democratic Party's political director since 2014.

= 9

## **What's Going On**

= 9 **8 a.m. – Ohio State Board of Education.** *Ohio Department of Education, 22 S. Front St.*

= 9 **7 to 9 p.m. – Fundraiser for Fair Districts = Fair Elections:**

Scheduled special guests include Catherine Turcer of Common Cause Ohio and Ohio State University professor emeritus Richard Gunther.

Contribution levels range from \$25 to \$100. *El Arepazo, 515 S. High St.*

= 9

**4 p.m. – Rally in support of Capital Care Network transfer agreement:**

NARAL Pro-Choice and pro-abortion rights locally elected officials and clergy will gather to call on two local hospitals, ProMedica and St. Luke's, to sign a transfer agreement with Toledo's last open abortion clinic, which the Ohio Supreme Court ordered shuttered last week. *Corner of Monroe and Midwood avenues, Toledo.*

= 9



**4 p.m. – SEIU workers to rally in Cleveland:** Workers plan to hold a rally and news conference on the 50th Anniversary of Historic Memphis Sanitation Strike. *RTA HealthLine, 105th St. and Euclid Ave.*

**= 9 5:30 to 7 p.m. – Rep. John Becker fundraiser:** House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger is slated to be a special guest. Donation levels range from \$250 to \$5,000. Eastgate Grammas Pizza, *618 Old State Route 74, #5, Cincinnati.*

= 9

## **Straight From The Source**

= 9 "Just spoke to @JohnKasich to express condolences and prayers to all for the horrible shooting of two great police officers from @WestervillePD. This is a true tragedy!"

= 9 - President Donald Trump, tweeting Sunday about Saturday's fatal shooting of two Westerville police officers.

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

***One of our aims with Capitol Letter is frequent communication with you, the reader. We value your thoughts and suggestions about the newsletter. What do you think of it? What features do you like? What could we do better? Is there a topic you'd like to see us address? And what time would you like to receive the newsletter? We've been sending it at about 6:15 a.m. Would you like it to arrive earlier? We value your feedback and are committed to making Capitol Letter your essential first read of the morning. Email us at Capitolletter@cleveland.com.***

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9



= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9 To ensure receipt of our emails, please add  
cleveland.com\_newsletters@update.cleveland.com to your address book or safe sender list.  
You received this email because you opted-in to the newsletter. Was it forwarded to you? [Sign  
up now!](#)

= 9

= 9

= 9 [UNSUBSCRIBE](#) | [PRIVACY POLICY](#) | [CONTACT US](#)

= 9

= 9

: 9



**From:** Capitol Letter

**Sent:** Monday, February 12, 2018 6:15 AM

**To:** Best, Carolyn

**Subject:** Education bill sets up battle between teachers and administrators, businesses

= 9

Monday Feb. 12, 2018

[View in Browser](#)



= 9

= 9

= 9

# Capitol Letter

Laura Hancock and Jeremy Pelzer

= 9

= 9





= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

## = 9 **Rotunda Rumblings**

= 9 **License check:** A bill that would allow a superintendent to hire teachers for grades or subject areas for which they are not licensed is pitting teachers against superintendents and the business community.



Senate Bill 216, called the “Public School Deregulation Act,” makes other sweeping changes, such as increasing to seven years the time non-teaching school employees must work to receive tenure, and changing teacher evaluations. The Ohio Chamber of Commerce and the Central Ohio Building and Construction Trades Council back the bill. The Buckeye Association of School Administrators has coordinated a dozen superintendents’ testimonies, from Berkshire village to Wyoming city, and is visiting individual lawmakers to drum up support, said the association’s Tom Ash.

= 9 **Op-ed:** Among opponents are the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, the United Way of Greater Cincinnati and teachers’ unions across the state – including the Ohio Education Association. OEA President Becky Higgins said current licensing requirements ensure teachers are prepared for the classroom. But there may be room for negotiation because she said in an email to Capitol Letter the group supports the bill’s change in teacher evaluations.

= 9 **Working out the details:** While the Department of Medicaid continues to develop its work requirement proposal for Medicaid expansion recipients, the Cleveland-based Center for Community Solutions said in a new policy paper that health insurers and providers may have to maintain more paperwork to keep people covered, an additional burden to them. Medicaid spokeswoman Melissa Ayers told Capitol Letter that once the proposal is released, there will be a 30-day public notice period and two public hearings before the proposal is sent to Washington for approval.

= 9 **Don’t leave me:** Reps. John Patterson, a Jefferson Democrat, and Rick Carfagna, a Genoa Township Republican, have proposed a college loan repayment program for people with degrees from Ohio colleges and universities in science, technology, engineering and math – provided they stay in the state and work in their field. They believe such a workforce would spur innovation and the economy. The \$15 million loan repayment program in House Bill 396 would need to be renewed after next fiscal year, however, since the measure only provides one year of funding.

= 9 **Smack in the middle:** Ohio road performance and cost effectiveness are 26th highest in the country, according to a new report from the



libertarian Reason Foundation that looked at state spending, fatalities and federally designated deficient bridges.

= 9

**Retirement plan?** State Rep. Bill Seitz has notified the Hamilton County Board of Elections that he plans to retire by the end of the year. But the Cincinnati lawmaker isn't going anywhere - it's a procedural move to collect his public pension while also collecting a legislative salary if he wins re-election this year - a maneuver known as "double-dipping," according to the Cincinnati Enquirer. Of course, it's also a way for Seitz to thumb his nose at his critics who have called on him to resign for making derogatory comments about a fellow lawmaker earlier this month.

= 9 **Double trouble:** Double-dipping is legal but controversial. Even the conservative American Legislative Exchange Council, whose board Seitz sits on, has called for eliminating the practice.

= 9 **Picking favorites:** The Ohio Republican Party's state central committee weighed in Friday on Ohio's top GOP primary races, endorsing Mike DeWine for governor and Jim Renacci for U.S. Senate. As cleveland.com's Andrew Tobias explains, the decision opens the door for the endorsed candidates to get party assistance while pressuring the non-endorsed candidates to drop out.

= 9 **Taylor goes off on DeWine:** Gubernatorial candidate Mary Taylor and U.S. Senate hopeful Mike Gibbons gave the time-honored response for candidates passed over for an endorsement, saying it should be Ohio voters, not "establishment" insiders, who pick the winner. Taylor forcefully made her displeasure known. "You are sending a dangerous message that elections are about inevitability," she told central committee members. Taylor laid into DeWine at length, saying (among many other quotable lines) that he "has a liberal voting record as long as the line of babies he's kissed and hands he's shook." She also said she wouldn't support DeWine in the general election.

= 9

**Sexism at work?** The central committee also got a talking-to from former Ashtabula County Treasurer Sandy O'Brien, who lost the party's endorsement for state treasurer to Robert Sprague. O'Brien said there is an "institutional bias" in favor of men, who can raise more money than



women because they don't have to spend as much time taking care of children and elderly family members. State GOP Chair Jane Timken said such criticism was "ironic," given that she was elected as head of the party after raising close to \$3 million for Republicans.

= 9 **Gay friendly:** The national LGBT advocacy group Human Rights Campaign has endorsed Rep. Nickie Antonio over Rep. Martin Sweeney in the Democratic primary for Senate District 23. In a release, the group said while it rarely endorses candidates ahead of a primary, Antonio – currently the only openly gay Ohio state lawmaker – 𐄂 0has been a relentless champion of equality and fairness in Ohio.”

## = 9 **Stories We're Talking About**

**All in the family:** State Rep. Martin Sweeney's daughter Bride Rose Sweeney has filed to take over the Cleveland Democrat's House District 14 seat. And as cleveland.com's Mark Naymik reports, "she is in excellent position to win" over three primary challengers. One of those opponents, Rick Raley, claims Bride is ineligible to run because she's lived outside the district for years, a charge Bride denies.

= 9 **Dayton drama:** State Rep. Niraj Antani has accused his fellow Dayton-area Republican, Rep. Jim Butler, of recruiting Miamisburg Vice Mayor Sarah Clark to challenge Antani, in the primary, according to the Dayton Daily News' Lynn Hulsey. Butler and Clark denied the accusation, with Clark saying she believes it's the opening salvo in an expected 2020 primary between Antani and Butler for term-limited State Sen. Peggy Lehner's seat.

= 9

**Toledo War:** "Former state officeholder Mark Wagoner Jr. is claiming to have nearly matched political rival Jon Stainbrook in recruiting candidates for the battle to elect a new chairman of the Lucas County Republican Party," writes the Toledo Blade's Mark Reiter. "The question now is how many of the potential 276 precinct committee hopefuls will get elected in the May 8 primary for the opportunity to vote for chairmanship of the party."

= 9

**Think Theis:** On the latest episode of cleveland.com's "Ohio Matters"



podcast, Progress Ohio Executive Director Sandy Theis offers insight and stories about her nearly 40 years as both a dogged statehouse reporter and a progressive activist.

= 9

**On the air:** The political ads have started in the crowded special election for Ohio's 12th congressional district. Carol O'Brien, one of 11 Republicans seeking Pat Tiberi's former seat, is now airing a one-minute radio ad in the Columbus market labeling her a "constitutional conservative" and touting her work as Delaware County prosecutor, according to the Columbus Dispatch's Jessica Wehrman.

= 9 **You're fired:** Democratic gubernatorial candidate Richard Cordray tells the Dispatch's Darrel Rowland that if he had stayed at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, President Donald Trump would have fired him after last week's candidate filing deadline had passed. "The only reason he would have survived even that long is that Trump was heeding Ohio Republicans' request not to make him a martyr for the governor's race," Rowland writes.

= 9 **Schoolyard fight:** State Sen. Joe Schiavoni went after Democratic gubernatorial rival Dennis Kucinich for taking three years to criticize the 2015 "Youngstown Plan," which may lead to the privatization of the city school district, according to the Youngstown Vindicator. Schiavoni: "This is how politicians work. They figure out which issues get you upset, then they promise to fix everything. Everyone's telling you what they'll do. You should look for the candidate who's already doing it."

= 9 **Knee problems:** Democratic gubernatorial hopeful Bill O'Neill came under fire Saturday from Cordray and others during a Black Votes Matter forum in Columbus over O'Neill's disapproval of NFL players who take a knee during the National Anthem to protest police violence against minorities. The Dispatch's Marty Schladen has more.

## = 9 **Full Disclosure**

= 9

Five things we learned about Euclid Democratic state Rep. Kent Smith's May 15 financial disclosure.



= 9 1. He only listed one job in 2016 -- state representative -- from which he earned \$65,584.

= 9

2. He has investments in the Ohio State Public Employees Retirement System and the School Employees Retirement System of Ohio.

= 9

3. He owed at least \$1,000 each to Ally Bank and Capital One.

= 9 4. The state reimbursed him \$7,748 for mileage between home and Columbus.

= 9 5. He also racked up \$700 in travel expenses from the National Caucus of Environmental Legislators.

## = 9 **On The Move**

= 9 Democratic gubernatorial candidate Rich Cordray announced he has hired Nelson Devezin as his campaign political director. Devezin has been the Ohio Democratic Party's political director since 2014.

= 9

## **What's Going On**

= 9 **8 a.m. – Ohio State Board of Education.** *Ohio Department of Education, 22 S. Front St.*

= 9 **7 to 9 p.m. – Fundraiser for Fair Districts = Fair Elections:**

Scheduled special guests include Catherine Turcer of Common Cause Ohio and Ohio State University professor emeritus Richard Gunther. Contribution levels range from \$25 to \$100. *El Arepazo, 515 S. High St.*

= 9

**4 p.m. – Rally in support of Capital Care Network transfer agreement:**

NARAL Pro-Choice and pro-abortion rights locally elected officials and clergy will gather to call on two local hospitals, ProMedica and St. Luke's, to sign a transfer agreement with Toledo's last open abortion clinic, which the Ohio Supreme Court ordered shuttered last week. *Corner of Monroe and Midwood avenues, Toledo.*

= 9



**4 p.m. – SEIU workers to rally in Cleveland:** Workers plan to hold a rally and news conference on the 50th Anniversary of Historic Memphis Sanitation Strike. *RTA HealthLine, 105th St. and Euclid Ave.*

**= 9 5:30 to 7 p.m. – Rep. John Becker fundraiser:** House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger is slated to be a special guest. Donation levels range from \$250 to \$5,000. Eastgate Grammas Pizza, *618 Old State Route 74, #5, Cincinnati.*

= 9

## **Straight From The Source**

= 9 "Just spoke to @JohnKasich to express condolences and prayers to all for the horrible shooting of two great police officers from @WestervillePD. This is a true tragedy!"

= 9 - President Donald Trump, tweeting Sunday about Saturday's fatal shooting of two Westerville police officers.

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

***One of our aims with Capitol Letter is frequent communication with you, the reader. We value your thoughts and suggestions about the newsletter. What do you think of it? What features do you like? What could we do better? Is there a topic you'd like to see us address? And what time would you like to receive the newsletter? We've been sending it at about 6:15 a.m. Would you like it to arrive earlier? We value your feedback and are committed to making Capitol Letter your essential first read of the morning. Email us at Capitolletter@cleveland.com.***

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9



= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9 To ensure receipt of our emails, please add  
cleveland.com\_newsletters@update.cleveland.com to your address book or safe sender list.  
You received this email because you opted-in to the newsletter. Was it forwarded to you? [Sign  
up now!](#)

= 9

= 9

= 9 [UNSUBSCRIBE](#) | [PRIVACY POLICY](#) | [CONTACT US](#)

= 9

= 9

:9



**From:** Capitol Letter

**Sent:** Monday, February 12, 2018 6:15 AM

**To:** Best, Carolyn

**Subject:** Education bill sets up battle between teachers and administrators, businesses

Monday Feb. 12, 2018

[View in Browser](#)



= 9

# Capitol Letter

Laura Hancock and Jeremy Pelzer

= 9

= 9





= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

## = 9 **Rotunda Rumblings**

= 9 **License check:** A bill that would allow a superintendent to hire teachers for grades or subject areas for which they are not licensed is pitting teachers against superintendents and the business community.



Senate Bill 216, called the "Public School Deregulation Act," makes other sweeping changes, such as increasing to seven years the time non-teaching school employees must work to receive tenure, and changing teacher evaluations. The Ohio Chamber of Commerce and the Central Ohio Building and Construction Trades Council back the bill. The Buckeye Association of School Administrators has coordinated a dozen superintendents' testimonies, from Berkshire village to Wyoming city, and is visiting individual lawmakers to drum up support, said the association's Tom Ash.

= 9 **Op-ed:** Among opponents are the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, the United Way of Greater Cincinnati and teachers' unions across the state – including the Ohio Education Association. OEA President Becky Higgins said current licensing requirements ensure teachers are prepared for the classroom. But there may be room for negotiation because she said in an email to Capitol Letter the group supports the bill's change in teacher evaluations.

= 9 **Working out the details:** While the Department of Medicaid continues to develop its work requirement proposal for Medicaid expansion recipients, the Cleveland-based Center for Community Solutions said in a new policy paper that health insurers and providers may have to maintain more paperwork to keep people covered, an additional burden to them. Medicaid spokeswoman Melissa Ayers told Capitol Letter that once the proposal is released, there will be a 30-day public notice period and two public hearings before the proposal is sent to Washington for approval.

= 9 **Don't leave me:** Reps. John Patterson, a Jefferson Democrat, and Rick Carfagna, a Genoa Township Republican, have proposed a college loan repayment program for people with degrees from Ohio colleges and universities in science, technology, engineering and math – provided they stay in the state and work in their field. They believe such a workforce would spur innovation and the economy. The \$15 million loan repayment program in House Bill 396 would need to be renewed after next fiscal year, however, since the measure only provides one year of funding.

= 9 **Smack in the middle:** Ohio road performance and cost effectiveness are 26th highest in the country, according to a new report from the



libertarian Reason Foundation that looked at state spending, fatalities and federally designated deficient bridges.

= 9

**Retirement plan?** State Rep. Bill Seitz has notified the Hamilton County Board of Elections that he plans to retire by the end of the year. But the Cincinnati lawmaker isn't going anywhere - it's a procedural move to collect his public pension while also collecting a legislative salary if he wins re-election this year - a maneuver known as "double-dipping," according to the Cincinnati Enquirer. Of course, it's also a way for Seitz to thumb his nose at his critics who have called on him to resign for making derogatory comments about a fellow lawmaker earlier this month.

= 9 **Double trouble:** Double-dipping is legal but controversial. Even the conservative American Legislative Exchange Council, whose board Seitz sits on, has called for eliminating the practice.

= 9 **Picking favorites:** The Ohio Republican Party's state central committee weighed in Friday on Ohio's top GOP primary races, endorsing Mike DeWine for governor and Jim Renacci for U.S. Senate. As cleveland.com's Andrew Tobias explains, the decision opens the door for the endorsed candidates to get party assistance while pressuring the non-endorsed candidates to drop out.

= 9 **Taylor goes off on DeWine:** Gubernatorial candidate Mary Taylor and U.S. Senate hopeful Mike Gibbons gave the time-honored response for candidates passed over for an endorsement, saying it should be Ohio voters, not "establishment" insiders, who pick the winner. Taylor forcefully made her displeasure known. "You are sending a dangerous message that elections are about inevitability," she told central committee members. Taylor laid into DeWine at length, saying (among many other quotable lines) that he "has a liberal voting record as long as the line of babies he's kissed and hands he's shook." She also said she wouldn't support DeWine in the general election.

= 9

**Sexism at work?** The central committee also got a talking-to from former Ashtabula County Treasurer Sandy O'Brien, who lost the party's endorsement for state treasurer to Robert Sprague. O'Brien said there is an "institutional bias" in favor of men, who can raise more money than



women because they don't have to spend as much time taking care of children and elderly family members. State GOP Chair Jane Timken said such criticism was "ironic," given that she was elected as head of the party after raising close to \$3 million for Republicans.

= 9 **Gay friendly:** The national LGBT advocacy group Human Rights Campaign has endorsed Rep. Nickie Antonio over Rep. Martin Sweeney in the Democratic primary for Senate District 23. In a release, the group said while it rarely endorses candidates ahead of a primary, Antonio – currently the only openly gay Ohio state lawmaker – has been a relentless champion of equality and fairness in Ohio.”

## = 9 **Stories We're Talking About**

**All in the family:** State Rep. Martin Sweeney's daughter Bride Rose Sweeney has filed to take over the Cleveland Democrat's House District 14 seat. And as cleveland.com's Mark Naymik reports, "she is in excellent position to win" over three primary challengers. One of those opponents, Rick Raley, claims Bride is ineligible to run because she's lived outside the district for years, a charge Bride denies.

= 9 **Dayton drama:** State Rep. Niraj Antani has accused his fellow Dayton-area Republican, Rep. Jim Butler, of recruiting Miamisburg Vice Mayor Sarah Clark to challenge Antani, in the primary, according to the Dayton Daily News' Lynn Hulsey. Butler and Clark denied the accusation, with Clark saying she believes it's the opening salvo in an expected 2020 primary between Antani and Butler for term-limited State Sen. Peggy Lehner's seat.

= 9

**Toledo War:** "Former state officeholder Mark Wagoner Jr. is claiming to have nearly matched political rival Jon Stainbrook in recruiting candidates for the battle to elect a new chairman of the Lucas County Republican Party," writes the Toledo Blade's Mark Reiter. "The question now is how many of the potential 276 precinct committee hopefuls will get elected in the May 8 primary for the opportunity to vote for chairmanship of the party."

= 9

**Think Theis:** On the latest episode of cleveland.com's "Ohio Matters"



podcast, Progress Ohio Executive Director Sandy Theis offers insight and stories about her nearly 40 years as both a dogged statehouse reporter and a progressive activist.

= 9

**On the air:** The political ads have started in the crowded special election for Ohio's 12th congressional district. Carol O'Brien, one of 11 Republicans seeking Pat Tiberi's former seat, is now airing a one-minute radio ad in the Columbus market labeling her a "constitutional conservative" and touting her work as Delaware County prosecutor, according to the Columbus Dispatch's Jessica Wehrman.

= 9 **You're fired:** Democratic gubernatorial candidate Richard Cordray tells the Dispatch's Darrel Rowland that if he had stayed at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, President Donald Trump would have fired him after last week's candidate filing deadline had passed. "The only reason he would have survived even that long is that Trump was heeding Ohio Republicans' request not to make him a martyr for the governor's race," Rowland writes.

= 9 **Schoolyard fight:** State Sen. Joe Schiavoni went after Democratic gubernatorial rival Dennis Kucinich for taking three years to criticize the 2015 "Youngstown Plan," which may lead to the privatization of the city school district, according to the Youngstown Vindicator. Schiavoni: "This is how politicians work. They figure out which issues get you upset, then they promise to fix everything. Everyone's telling you what they'll do. You should look for the candidate who's already doing it."

= 9 **Knee problems:** Democratic gubernatorial hopeful Bill O'Neill came under fire Saturday from Cordray and others during a Black Votes Matter forum in Columbus over O'Neill's disapproval of NFL players who take a knee during the National Anthem to protest police violence against minorities. The Dispatch's Marty Schladen has more.

## = 9 **Full Disclosure**

= 9

Five things we learned about Euclid Democratic state Rep. Kent Smith's May 15 financial disclosure.



= 9 1. He only listed one job in 2016 -- state representative -- from which he earned \$65,584.

= 9

2. He has investments in the Ohio State Public Employees Retirement System and the School Employees Retirement System of Ohio.

= 9

3. He owed at least \$1,000 each to Ally Bank and Capital One.

= 9 4. The state reimbursed him \$7,748 for mileage between home and Columbus.

= 9 5. He also racked up \$700 in travel expenses from the National Caucus of Environmental Legislators.

## = 9 **On The Move**

= 9 Democratic gubernatorial candidate Rich Cordray announced he has hired Nelson Devezin as his campaign political director. Devezin has been the Ohio Democratic Party's political director since 2014.

= 9

## **What's Going On**

= 9 **8 a.m. – Ohio State Board of Education.** *Ohio Department of Education, 22 S. Front St.*

= 9 **7 to 9 p.m. – Fundraiser for Fair Districts = Fair Elections:**

Scheduled special guests include Catherine Turcer of Common Cause Ohio and Ohio State University professor emeritus Richard Gunther. Contribution levels range from \$25 to \$100. *El Arepazo, 515 S. High St.*

= 9

**4 p.m. – Rally in support of Capital Care Network transfer agreement:**

NARAL Pro-Choice and pro-abortion rights locally elected officials and clergy will gather to call on two local hospitals, ProMedica and St. Luke's, to sign a transfer agreement with Toledo's last open abortion clinic, which the Ohio Supreme Court ordered shuttered last week. *Corner of Monroe and Midwood avenues, Toledo.*

= 9



**4 p.m. – SEIU workers to rally in Cleveland:** Workers plan to hold a rally and news conference on the 50th Anniversary of Historic Memphis Sanitation Strike. *RTA HealthLine, 105th St. and Euclid Ave.*

**= 9 5:30 to 7 p.m. – Rep. John Becker fundraiser:** House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger is slated to be a special guest. Donation levels range from \$250 to \$5,000. Eastgate Grammas Pizza, *618 Old State Route 74, #5, Cincinnati.*

= 9

## **Straight From The Source**

= 9 "Just spoke to @JohnKasich to express condolences and prayers to all for the horrible shooting of two great police officers from @WestervillePD. This is a true tragedy!"

= 9 - President Donald Trump, tweeting Sunday about Saturday's fatal shooting of two Westerville police officers.

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

***One of our aims with Capitol Letter is frequent communication with you, the reader. We value your thoughts and suggestions about the newsletter. What do you think of it? What features do you like? What could we do better? Is there a topic you'd like to see us address? And what time would you like to receive the newsletter? We've been sending it at about 6:15 a.m. Would you like it to arrive earlier? We value your feedback and are committed to making Capitol Letter your essential first read of the morning. Email us at Capitolletter@cleveland.com.***

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9



= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9 To ensure receipt of our emails, please add  
cleveland.com\_newsletters@update.cleveland.com to your address book or safe sender list.  
You received this email because you opted-in to the newsletter. Was it forwarded to you? Sign  
up now!

= 9

= 9

= 9 UNSUBSCRIBE | PRIVACY POLICY | CONTACT US

= 9

= 9

: 9



**From:** Capitol Letter

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2018 6:15 AM

**To:** Best, Carolyn

**Subject:** Legislators look to bring Ohio tax law up to code

= 9

Tuesday Feb. 13, 2018

= 9

[View in Browser](#)

= 9

= 9



= 9

= 9

= 9

# Capitol Letter

Laura Hancock and Jeremy Pelzer

= 9

= 9

= 9





= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

## Rotunda Rumblings

= 9 **Taxing issue:** Almost every year, the General Assembly updates state tax law to reflect tweaks the federal government makes to the IRS code. But with Congress having recently overhauled the tax law, Ohio Senate Bill 22 – which has incorporated previous smaller changes – may be amended Tuesday to follow the federal changes. Sponsor Sen. Bob Peterson said the biggest change will be requiring the Ohio Department of Taxation to start tracking dependents, since the federal government will no longer do it for the state. The personal and dependent exemption is going away.

= 9

**Phone ahead:** The House Public Utilities Committee on Tuesday may approve a substitute bill for, then wave ahead a bipartisan telecom deregulation bill designed to help local telephone companies. House Bill



402, as currently written, would allow local telephone companies to merge without state approval, permit base rate hikes of up to 20 percent per year, and no longer mandate that phone companies pay triple damages for violations. The legislation follows an Ohio Telecom Association report showing local phone companies in the state have lost 80 percent of their landline customers since 2000 as mobile phone use has skyrocketed.

= 9 **Hagan's 'Disgraceful' tweet:** State Rep. Christina Hagan angered Republicans across the state with a racially loaded Sunday night tweet. = 2 Armando Gonzalez and 2 other suspects have been charged in illegal immigrant drug ring," Hagan wrote, attaching an article about an alleged drug-trafficking ring in Butler County. One of the three suspects identified in the story is actually named Armando Gonzalez-Rosas. People immediately took note of Hagan's selective editing and inclusion of his name, since her opponent in the GOP primary for Ohio's 16th Congressional District is Anthony Gonzalez. Cleveland-area Tea Party activist Ralph King called the tweet in "poor taste." Ohio Right to Life's Mike Gonidakis called it "embarrassing and disgraceful."

= 9 **Abortion politics:** The Ohio Right to Life PAC announced Monday it will endorse Republican Attorney General Mike DeWine for governor, in part for his "fierce defense" of many of the Ohio's recent anti-abortion legislation. The PAC will decide later how much it will contribute to his campaign. DeWine's GOP opponent Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor questioned DeWine's anti-abortion record when he was in Congress.

= 9 **Labor movement:** Since lawmakers introduced six proposed constitutional amendments favoring "right to work" over labor unions, left-leaning organizations have been crafting a response, which will be announced at a Tuesday press conference. Policy Matters Ohio and ProgressOhio will hit back with 10 ideas they will argue create security, stability and prosperity for workers. Joining them will be a Wright State University economics professor and a Cincinnati firefighter.

= 9 **Art House:** State officials are set on Tuesday to hold a public unveiling of the first piece of non-portrait art in the last 59 years to be put on permanent display in the Statehouse. The painting "Greeting Lincoln," from



the artist Pamela Patrick White, depicts President-elect Abraham Lincoln addressing a joint session of the Ohio legislature on February 13, 1861. The painting will be hung in the hallway outside the House chamber.

= 9

**Out for the week:** The Ohio Senate has no voting sessions or committee meetings scheduled this week. Senate President Larry Obhof's spokesman said the chamber met three times last week as it worked on adopting the congressional redistricting proposal, and senators will continue to work behind the scenes on the capital budget.

= 9

**Whip it good:** Ken Harbaugh, the Democrat hoping to unseat Republican U.S. Rep. Bob Gibbs, has landed a big name for his fundraiser next Monday: U.S. House Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer. The event, set to be held at former Ohio Democratic Party Chair Chris Redfern's winery in Marblehead, is fairly cheap to attend: \$25 per person, \$40 per couple (kids free).

## = 9 **Stories We're Talking About**

= 9 **Buzzkill:** Auditor Dave Yost found what he called a "critical flaw" in the state's grading system for medical marijuana grow applications, reports cleveland.com's Jackie Borchardt. A password flaw allowed two Ohio Department of Commerce employees unfettered access to the application grading system, giving them the ability to change the scores of grower applications. "Because of this critical flaw in the procedure's design, neither this office, nor the public, can rely upon the cultivator application results," Yost said in a letter obtained by Borchardt.

= 9 **Legalize it:** That's what proponents of a ballot initiative hope to do during the November election. The Statehouse News Bureau's Jo Ingles reports the group backing the "all-out" marijuana legalization effort may introduce it in the next couple of weeks.

= 9

**Budget woes:** Cleveland.com's Stephen Koff and Sabrina Eaton report that President Donald Trump's proposed budget would cut money for hiring cops, transportation, food assistance and Lake Erie cleanup while increasing money for combating opioid abuse. And, per The Plain Dealer's Grant Segall, the budget would give a boost to NASA's Glenn Research



Center.

= 9

**ECOT up:** The state school board decided Monday to recover more than \$19 million from ECOT, The Plain Dealer's Patrick O'Donnell reports. The vote affirmed earlier findings by the Department of Education and doesn't add money to the \$80 million ECOT has been reported to owe the state.

= 9**Overdoses:** Ohio's overdose problem is getting worse, writes the Columbus Dispatch's Randy Ludlow. Drug overdose rates climbed 39 percent, making it the third-largest increase among all the states.

= 9 **The Big D:** If you're looking for the place with the fastest job growth in the state, you'll have to look outside Cleveland (0.2 percent), Columbus (1.4 percent) and Cincinnati (0.4 percent). As the Dayton Daily News reports, employment in the Dayton metro area grew 2.8 percent between December 2016 and December 2017.

= A

## Full Disclosure

= A Five things we learned from Cleveland Democrat Sen. Sandra Williams' May 12 financial disclosure statement:

= 9 1. in addition to earning \$65,584 in the Senate in 2016, she earned \$1,000 to \$9,999 as a professor at Cleveland State University.

= 9 2. She owed at least \$1,000 each to Credit Union of Ohio, Third Federal Bank, Federal Loan Servicing Center, Capital One, Wells Fargo, Katzel (whom she identified as a dentist), Sam's Club, Ann Taylor, Dillard's, Home Shopping Network and Charter One.

= A 3. She racked up \$6,573.84 in mileage between home and Columbus.

= 94. Community Blight Solutions paid for dinner worth \$214.94 when she was in Israel – a \$1,127.39 trip that the Jewish Federation of North America paid for.

= 9 5. In addition to Israel, Williams also went on trips paid for by the Urban Agriculture Academy (\$1,000), Women in Government (\$1,450), the



German Marshall Fund (\$450) and the National Black Caucus of State Legislators (\$500).

= 9

## On The Move

= 9 Trevor L. Brown has been named the inaugural executive director of the newly created State of Ohio Leadership Institute, created last year to provide training and education to elected officials. Brown will continue to serve as dean of Ohio State University's John Glenn College of Public Affairs.

= 9 Tod Bowen has been hired as the Ohio Restaurant Association's new managing director of sales and growth. Bowen previously was founder/president of New Century Solutions, a political consulting and fundraising firm with ties to Gov. John Kasich.

## = 9 What's Going On

= 9

**10 a.m. – Ohio Attorney General's Task Force on Criminal Justice and Mental Illness.** *Board Room, State Library of Ohio, 274 East First Ave.*

= 9 **10:30 a.m. – U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan news conference:** The Youngstown-area Democrat plans to meet with the media after touring Camp Ravenna's Joint Military Training Center. *Camp Ravenna, 8451 State Route 5, Ravenna.*

= 9 **11 a.m. – Policy Matters Ohio to release policy recommendations:** The liberal group plans to issue a report titled "A new way forward: 10 ways to support Ohio's working people." *ProgressOhio Offices, Second Floor Conference Room, Suite 404, 35 East Gay St.*

= 9 **11 a.m. – Ohio Statehouse to unveil historic painting of Lincoln.** *The Hall of the Ohio House of Representatives, Ohio Statehouse.*

= 9 **Noon – Black History Month performance:** The 45-minute show will feature Paisha Thomas performing "Stories and Songs of the Black Experience." *Atrium, Ohio Statehouse.*



= 9 **1:30 p.m. – House Criminal Justice Committee:** The committee may amend House Bill 355, which would expressly ban "sexting" in Ohio by people younger than 21. *Room 114, Ohio Statehouse.*

= 9

**3 p.m. – House Public Utilities Committee:** The panel may adopt a substitute bill for and vote to report House Bill 402, a deregulation bill for local telephone companies. *Room 116, Ohio Statehouse.*

= A

**5 to 7 p.m. – Ohio Council of County Officials' legislative reception:** Open to all lawmakers. *Atrium, Ohio Statehouse.*

= 9 **5:30 to 7:30 p.m. – Ohio House Democratic Caucus Mardi Gras Party:** Sponsor levels range from \$50 to \$2,500. *Rambling House Soda, 310 E. Hudson St.*

= 9 **6 p.m. – Jon Husted to speak in Holmes County:** The secretary of state and candidate for lieutenant governor is slated to keynote the Holmes County GOP's Lincoln Day Dinner. *Carlisle Village Inn, 4949 Walnut St., Walnut Creek.*

## = 9 **Birthdays**

= 9

Rep. Bill Patmon

= 9 Kelly Kefauver, Ohio Senate Democrats' policy adviser

## = 9 **Straight From The Source**

= 9

"We must not allow a political regulatory scheme to close Toledo's remaining abortion clinic. Its absence would not diminish the number of abortions but would increase the injury and death of women in my home city and state. Democracy begins with each person's control of his or her own body. Without reproductive freedom, there is no democracy for America women."

= 9

- Feminist leader and Toledo native Gloria Steinem, in a statement on Monday after the Ohio Supreme Court upheld a state order to shutter Capital Care.

= 9



= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

***One of our aims with Capitol Letter is frequent communication with you, the reader. We value your thoughts and suggestions about the newsletter. What do you think of it? What features do you like? What could we do better? Is there a topic you'd like to see us address? And what time would you like to receive the newsletter? We've been sending it at about 6:15 a.m. Would you like it to arrive earlier? We value your feedback and are committed to making Capitol Letter your essential first read of the morning. Email us at [Capitolletter@cleveland.com](mailto:Capitolletter@cleveland.com).***

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9 To ensure receipt of our emails, please add

cleveland.com\_newsletters@update.cleveland.com to your address book or safe sender list.

You received this email because you opted-in to the newsletter. Was it forwarded to you? [Sign](#)

[up now!](#)

= 9

= 9

= 9 [UNSUBSCRIBE](#) | [PRIVACY POLICY](#) | [CONTACT US](#)

= 9

= 9

= 9



**From:** Best, Carolyn  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2018 9:24 AM  
**To:** Miller, Brad  
**Subject:** Cap letter

**Carolyn Best**

*Director of Communications*

Office of Speaker Clifford A. Rosenberger/Ohio House of Representatives  
77 S. High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215

**Office Phone:** 614.644.1739

**Cell Phone:** 740.815.9635



**Rotunda Rumblings**

**Taxing issue:** Almost every year, the General Assembly updates state tax law to reflect tweaks the federal government makes to the IRS code. But



with Congress having recently overhauled the tax law, Ohio Senate Bill 22 – which has incorporated previous smaller changes – may be amended Tuesday to follow the federal changes. Sponsor Sen. Bob Peterson said the biggest change will be requiring the Ohio Department of Taxation to start tracking dependents, since the federal government will no longer do it for the state. The personal and dependent exemption is going away.

**Phone ahead:** The House Public Utilities Committee on Tuesday may approve a substitute bill for, then wave ahead a bipartisan telecom deregulation bill designed to help local telephone companies. House Bill 402, as currently written, would allow local telephone companies to merge without state approval, permit base rate hikes of up to 20 percent per year, and no longer mandate that phone companies pay triple damages for violations. The legislation follows an Ohio Telecom Association report showing local phone companies in the state have lost 80 percent of their landline customers since 2000 as mobile phone use has skyrocketed.

**Hagan's 'disgraceful' tweet:** State Rep. Christina Hagan angered Republicans across the state with a racially loaded Sunday night tweet. "Armando Gonzalez and 2 other suspects have been charged in illegal immigrant drug ring," Hagan wrote, attaching an article about an alleged drug-trafficking ring in Butler County. One of the three suspects identified in the story is actually named Armando Gonzalez-Rosas. People immediately took note of Hagan's selective editing and inclusion of his name, since her opponent in the GOP primary for Ohio's 16th Congressional District is Anthony Gonzalez. Cleveland-area Tea Party activist Ralph King called the tweet in "poor taste." Ohio Right to Life's Mike Gonidakis called it "embarrassing and disgraceful."

**Abortion politics:** The Ohio Right to Life PAC announced Monday it will endorse Republican Attorney General Mike DeWine for governor, in part for his "fierce defense" of many of the Ohio's recent anti-abortion legislation. The PAC will decide later how much it will contribute to his campaign. DeWine's GOP opponent Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor questioned DeWine's anti-abortion record when he was in Congress.

**Labor movement:** Since lawmakers introduced six proposed constitutional amendments favoring "right to work" over labor unions, left-leaning



organizations have been crafting a response, which will be announced at a Tuesday press conference. Policy Matters Ohio and ProgressOhio will hit back with 10 ideas they will argue create security, stability and prosperity for workers. Joining them will be a Wright State University economics professor and a Cincinnati firefighter.

**Art House:** State officials are set on Tuesday to hold a public unveiling of the first piece of non-portrait art in the last 59 years to be put on permanent display in the Statehouse. The painting "Greeting Lincoln," from the artist Pamela Patrick White, depicts President-elect Abraham Lincoln addressing a joint session of the Ohio legislature on February 13, 1861. The painting will be hung in the hallway outside the House chamber.

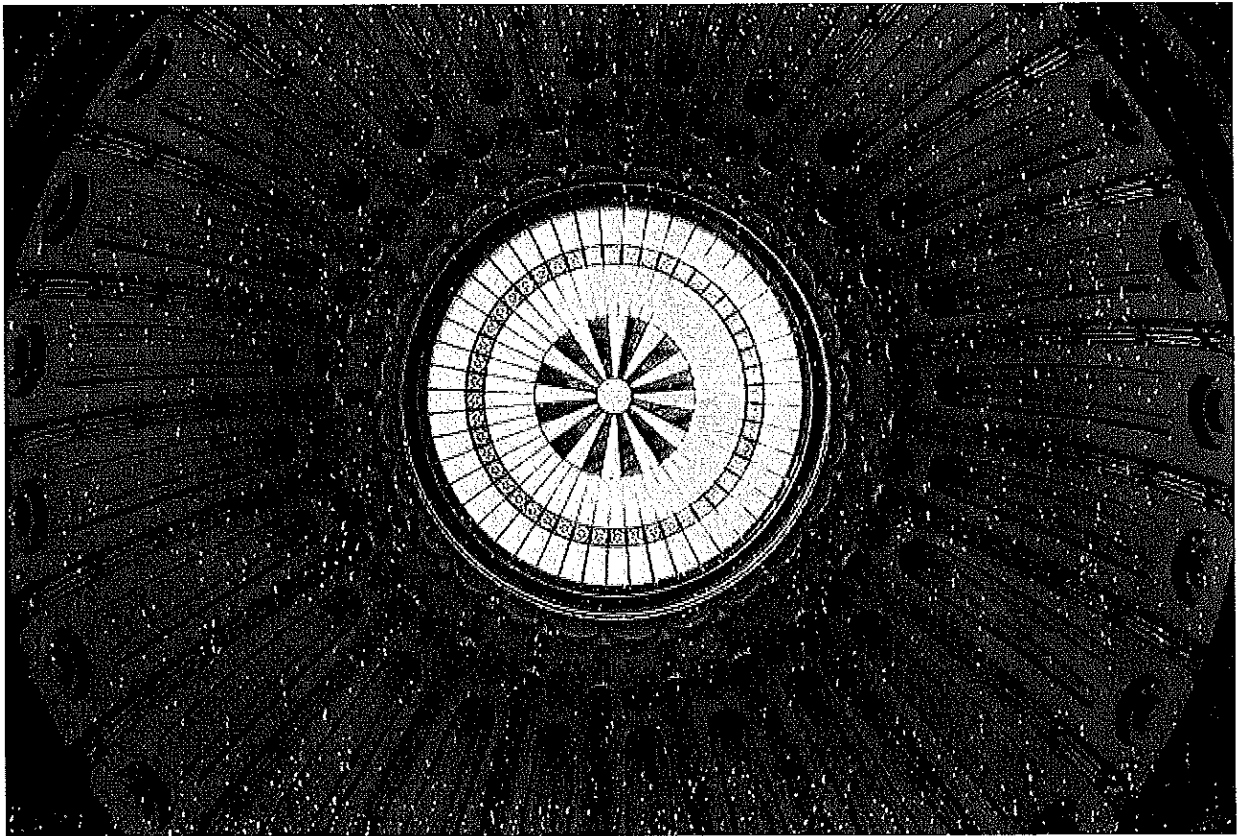
**Out for the week:** The Ohio Senate has no voting sessions or committee meetings scheduled this week. Senate President Larry Obhof's spokesman said the chamber met three times last week as it worked on adopting the congressional redistricting proposal, and senators will continue to work behind the scenes on the capital budget.

**Whip it good:** Ken Harbaugh, the Democrat hoping to unseat Republican U.S. Rep. Bob Gibbs, has landed a big name for his fundraiser next Monday: U.S. House Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer. The event, set to be held at former Ohio Democratic Party Chair Chris Redfern's winery in Marblehead, is fairly cheap to attend: \$25 per person, \$40 per couple (kids free).

## Stories We're Talking About

**Buzzkill:** Auditor Dave Yost found what he called a "critical flaw" in the state's grading system for medical marijuana grow applications, reports cleveland.com's Jackie Borchardt. A password flaw allowed two Ohio Department of Commerce employees unfettered access to the application grading system, giving them the ability to change the scores of grower applications. "Because of this critical flaw in the procedure's design, neither this office, nor the public, can rely upon the cultivator application results," Yost said in a letter obtained by Borchardt.





= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

## = 9 **Rotunda Rumblings**

= 9

**Becker's latest right-to-work tactic:** With his so-called right-to-work bill stalled in the Ohio House, Rep. John Becker is trying to take the matter to Ohio voters. The Republican from (ironically) Union Township has drawn up six proposed constitutional amendments on union-related issues for the 2020 ballot, including measures to prohibit private-sector union membership as a condition of employment, repeal Ohio's prevailing-wage requirements, and ban union political spending without workers' consent. Asked by Capitol Letter if he expects these proposed amendments to fare any better than his existing bill, Becker replied, "If what you're doing isn't working, then maybe it's time to try something different."



= 9 **Net result:** Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine, who is running for governor as a Republican, will not join the handful of other states and Washington D.C. that intend to sue the Federal Communications Commission over the net neutrality repeal. DeWine's spokesman -- who didn't provide a reason why outside of saying the office hasn't discussed the issue yet -- noted Monday that the attorneys general that will sue are Democrats. (Although polling shows most Republicans support net neutrality.) Democratic gubernatorial candidate Betty Sutton called DeWine out Monday, saying he should fight for a fair and open internet.

= 9

**Lowdown on lock up:** Controlling Board on Monday cleared the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction to spend \$20.5 million on prison renovations - including \$18.6 million for Schorr Architects of Dublin and Robertson Construction Services of Heath. The firms were competitively selected for work at the Chillicothe, Ross, Lebanon and Warren correctional institutions, said department spokesman Grant Doepel. Other big-ticket items approved by the board include \$77 million for highway work and a \$527,000 boost in the state fair budget to recruit more A-list performers.

= 9

**Ouch:** Republican Sen. Jay Hottinger on Monday endorsed Mike Gibbons for U.S. Senate -- marking the first time Gibbons has scored a legislative endorsement in his primary campaign against Josh Mandel. The Franklin County GOP also chose Gibbons over the Ohio state treasurer, hoping to set up a contest between Gibbons and incumbent Democratic U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown.

= 9

**Finger on the scale?** You may remember the Ohio Republican Party's central committee voted earlier this month to hold off until February on statewide candidate endorsements after 2006 GOP treasurer nominee Sandy O'Brien announced she will run against Robert Sprague in the next year's treasurer primary. It was a bit surprising, then, to see the Sprague campaign announce that state party chair Jane Timken will be a special guest at a Sprague fundraiser in Columbus next month. ORP spokesman Blaine Kelly said Timken's planned attendance doesn't mean she's endorsing Sprague. O'Brien, for her part, said in a statement that it's "appropriate" for Timken "to speak at any forum where Republicans gather to promote our Republican goals."



= 9 **Aging out:** Ohio Department of Aging Director Stephanie Loucka will be stepping down at the end of the year for a job outside the administration, Gov. John Kasich's office announced Monday. Beverley Laubert, the state's long-term-care ombudsman, will take over as acting director.

= 9 **Bank shot:** The Ohio Bankers League, not surprisingly, has some concerns with House Bill 446, which would prevent banks (and other institutions) from rejecting "power of attorney" forms that, while valid, aren't tailored to their specifications. OBL spokesman James Thurston said while his group isn't officially opposing the bipartisan legislation yet, there are concerns that it could encourage elder abuse and leave banks vulnerable to having to repay funds lost to fraud. "The question becomes, what is more inconvenient – having to wait a little bit of time so the bank can do some verification, or having your funds stolen from your account?" Thurston asked.

= 9

## Stories We're Talking About

= 9

**Trouble ticket:** An inspector general's report found Ohio IT officials awarded millions of dollars in no-bid contracts, creating chances for "abusive and potential fraudulent activity," cleveland.com's Jackie Borchardt reports. The contracts were awarded to several companies, with no process to determine if the companies were doing their job.

= 9 **Hello, Otterbein!** Gov. John Kasich's traveling State of the State extravaganza is coming to Westerville for his final appearance. The governor, who took the traditionally Statehouse-based show on the road, is keeping it closer to home this year – it's about 15 minutes from his home in Genoa Township, according to the Columbus Dispatch's Jim Siegel.

= 9

**Narcan-did opinions:** While the opioid epidemic rages through Ohio, two sheriffs are on opposite ends of the naloxone debate, per the Associated Press. Clermont County Sheriff Steve Leahy backs the use of the drug, which is used to reverse and overdose and commonly known by the brand name Narcan, while Butler County Sheriff Richard Jones thinks reviving those is dangerous work and a drain on taxpayer resources.



= 9 **Packing and cracking:** People often point to Cuyahoga County when talking about gerrymandering and a lack of representation, but WKSU's Mark Arehart points out the fourth-largest county in the state has a similar problem. Four congressional districts include portions of Summit County, but not a single representative from the congressional delegation is from Summit County.

= 9 **I want to believe:** In case you missed this strange U.F.O.-related story from the New York Times, there is an Ohio connection. The federal government examined U.F.O.'s at the behest of Senate Democratic Leader Harry Reid. Reid asked former U.S. Sen. John Glenn for his opinion, who told him the federal government "should be looking seriously into U.F.O.s." But \$22 million later and we still haven't met E.T.

= 9

**About that Murray pick...** U.S. Rep. Jim Renacci's pick of Cincinnati Councilwoman Amy Murray as his running mate isn't drawing the applause he must have thought it would from conservative groups. Writing in the Cincinnati Enquirer, Citizens for Community Values President Aaron Baer said Renacci disqualified himself with the Murray pick. The argument: The "Trump-friendly" candidate is more establishment than she lets on.

## = 9 **What's Going On Today**

= 9

**10 a.m. – Mike DeWine and Jon Husted to make first joint NE Ohio campaign stop:** The candidates for governor and lieutenant governor, respectively, will be joined by Brecksville Mayor Jerry Hruby. *Brecksville Community Center, 1 Community Drive, Brecksville.*

= 9 **Noon to 1 p.m. – Statehouse holiday concert:** The Bexley High School Vocal Ensemble are scheduled to perform a free concert open to the public. *Ground floor, Ohio Statehouse.*

= 9 **12:30 to 1:30 p.m. – DeWine, Husted to hold campaign lunch.** *Innecircle Pizza, 6579 Ironwood Blvd., Canfield.*

= 9

**5 to 7 p.m. – Rep. Theresa Gavarone fundraising reception:** House Finance Committee Chair Ryan Smith is scheduled to be a special guest.



Sponsor levels range from \$250 to \$1,000. *Holiday Inn French Quarter, 10630 Fremont Pike, Perrysburg.*

## = 9 **Full Disclosure**

= 9

Five things we learned from the May 15 ethics filing of state Treasurer Josh Mandel.

= A 1. When he gases up, Mandel is loyal to Speedway, the gas station and convenience store chain headquartered near Dayton. His travel expenses include repeated fill-ups at Speedway, a subsidiary of another Ohio-based company, Marathon Petroleum Corp.

= 9

2. Mandel doesn't bill the state for travel. Rather, he has his political campaign organizations – formed for his pursuit of a U.S. Senate seat in 2018 – pick up the tab, which is fine as long as he combines some legitimate campaign activity on his trips. Ethics watchdogs don't love that, as an Associated Press story explained in June, because Mandel travels a lot but no one can tell how it relates to his state job. But it saves state taxpayers money.

= 9 3. Seventy-four people or entities gave Mandel gifts in 2016, including political organizations (Portman for Senate, Marco Rubio for President) and political heavyweights Wayne Berman and Murray Energy Corp.

= 9 4. The financial holdings of Mandel and his wife, Ilana, whose grandmother was one of Forest City Enterprises' founders, are so voluminous they could be packaged as their own broad-based ETF. Alphabetically, they span from Abbott Laboratories stock to Youngstown State University municipal bonds. They are overwhelmingly weighted in stocks.

= A 5. Mandel understands the power of social media – and that includes the financial power. The biggest source of 2016 capital gains on his disclosure came from Facebook, totaling \$28,207.

## **Birthdays**



= 9 Ex-Ohio House Speaker Bill Batchelder

= 9 U.S. Sen. Rob Portman

= 9 **Straight From The Source**

= 9 "Whatching #AChristmasStoryLive

= 9 Way to ruin a classic

#quitremakingclassics"

= 9

-State Rep. Wes Retherford, joining in the chorus of disappointment regarding Sunday's live TV musical of the original film.

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

***One of our aims with Capitol Letter is frequent communication with you, the reader. We value your thoughts and suggestions about the newsletter. What do you think of it? What features do you like? What could we do better? Is there a topic you'd like to see us address? And what time would you like to receive the newsletter? We've been sending it at about 6:15 a.m. Would you like it to arrive earlier? We value your feedback and are committed to making Capitol Letter your essential first read of the morning. Email us at [Capitolletter@cleveland.com](mailto:Capitolletter@cleveland.com).***

= 9

= 9 = 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9



= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9 To ensure receipt of our emails, please add

cleveland.com\_newsletters@update.cleveland.com to your address book or safe sender list.

You received this email because you opted-in to the newsletter. Was it forwarded to you? [Sign  
up now!](#)

= A

= 9

= 9

= 9 [UNSUBSCRIBE](#) | [PRIVACY POLICY](#) | [CONTACT US](#)

= 9

= 9

= A



**From:** Rep30  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 4:18 PM  
**To:** Committee\_PublicUtilities\_List\_GOP  
**Subject:** RE: Enclosed PowerPoint Presentation

I respond briefly to my colleague's December 15 memo. Representative Romanchuk can be assured "getting to real business in the new year" does not mean that we are going to pass an unnecessary tax on our constituents, if I have anything to say about it. Nothing in the bills pending before our committee entails any tax whatsoever.

I disagree with his assertion that the PowerPoint presentations that I shared with you from my ALEC winter meeting are inapplicable to Ohio or its electric market. The need for reliable and resilient fuel generation sources is as big an issue here as it is in Texas or anywhere else. Coal and nuclear are reliable and resilient. Abandoning the field solely to volatile market prices for gas (and renewables, which are neither reliable nor resilient) would cause the same problems for Ohio that the experts see emerging in Texas' wholly deregulated generation market. HB 247 would wholly deregulate electric generation markets in Ohio, without any effective method of replacing what some claim to be "an outdated rate mechanism", the electric security plan option that is currently available. Essentially, the state of Ohio would abdicate any ability to ensure a reliable, resilient, and diverse fuel supply and leave that to the federal authorities.

Every one of the three items addressed by HB 247 are important issues to address. "Getting down to real business" means determining whether these issues are being correctly addressed by the bill; collaboratively deciding how better to address them; and respecting the order established by leadership in which energy issues are to be addressed in this session.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Bill

---

**From:** Rep02  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2017 1:29 PM  
**To:** Rep30 <Rep30@ohiohouse.gov>; Committee\_PublicUtilities\_List\_GOP  
<DL\_Committee\_PublicUtilities\_List\_GOP@ohiohouse.gov>; Willamowski, Sheila  
<Sheila.Willamowski@ohiohouse.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Enclosed PowerPoint Presentation

Chairman Cupp, GOP Committee Members, Ryan and Sheila,



The presentations regarding the Texas system do not apply to Ohio and our electric market.

HB 247 addresses three items unique to Ohio:

- It eliminates an outdated rate mechanism which is now being used against Ohioans
- It requires refunds to Ohioans if an electric rate has been ruled unlawful
- It prohibits utilities that are in the distribution business from owning electric generation (which mirrors the deregulation legislation passed in 1999-SB3)

**If "getting down to real business in the new year" means that we are going to pass an unnecessary tax on our constituents...NO THANKS.**

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays,

Mark

---

**From:** Rep30

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 4:40 PM

**To:** Committee\_PublicUtilities\_List\_GOP

<DL\_Committee\_PublicUtilities\_List\_GOP@ohiohouse.gov>; Willamowski, Sheila

<Sheila.Willamowski@ohiohouse.gov>

**Subject:** Enclosed PowerPoint Presentation

Republican Members of Public Utilities Committee, Lehman, Sheila

RE: Enclosed PowerPoint presentation

As we continue to look at the complex electricity issues contained in bills pending before our committee, I commend to your attention the enclosed PowerPoint presentation which, among other things, emphasizes the need for resiliency and reliability in preserving baseload electricity plants and also points out that the Texas wholly deregulated generation market is not all that it is cracked up to be—a cautionary tale lest we attempt to replicate that model, as HB 247 would have us do. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. I hope we can get down to real business in the new year.



= A

**From:** Capitol Letter

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 6:16 AM

**To:** Best, Carolyn

**Subject:** No appetite for wage increase among restaurateurs

= 9

Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2017

[View in Browser](#)

= 9

= 9

= 9



= 9

= A

= 9

= 9

# Capitol Letter

Laura Hancock and Jeremy Pelzer

= 9

= A







Columbus Commons, across from Capitol Square, is decorated and lit up for the holidays.

= 9

= 9

## Rotunda Rumblings

= 9 **A bad taste:** The Ohio Restaurant Association is cautioning that rising wages could lead to fewer hours for workers, fewer overall employees and cancellation of new restaurant plans. On Jan. 1, the state's minimum wage increases by 15 cents an hour to \$8.30 and by 7 cents an hour to \$4.15 for tipped workers. The association recently surveyed members and found that when the minimum wage hits \$10, half of respondents will likely cut hours, it announced in a news release.

= 9 **Share this:** When MetroHealth doctors or employees invent a process, drug or medical device, they get to pocket the profits if the creation gets to market. But that would change under Rep. Dave Greenspan's House Bill 453, introduced Tuesday, which specifies the intellectual property belongs to the Cleveland-area public hospital system. The bill would align MetroHealth with the state's other public hospitals, such as those affiliated with Ohio State University, which own intellectual property created on site, he said.

= 9

**Co-pay relief:** The state would waive Medicaid co-payments for a group of physically and mentally challenged Ohioans under a new bill. The people covered in Senate Bill 243 are so severely disabled they cannot work, and live on Social Security Disability Income or Supplemental Security Income, said Sen. Matt Dolan, the bill's sponsor. A constituent with a severely handicapped son asked Dolan to carry the measure because co-payments were eating into the disabled man's limited budget. Dolan said his bill would cost the state around \$245,000 a year.

= 9 **I see you've played knifey-spoony before:** For those of you who aren't in a 1950s street gang or don't engage in ancient warfare, it may surprise you to learn that Ohio law prohibits the manufacture and sale (though not the possession) of archaic weapons such as brass knuckles, billy clubs, switchblade knives, and a cestus (an ancient battle glove – we had to Google that.) But now, new legislation from state Sen. Frank LaRose would lift that ban. The Hudson Republican tells Capitol Letter that



he brought the bill at the request of Rick Hinderer, a knifemaker in his district who wants to make spring-loaded knives for the military.

= 9 **Labor pains:** Ohio House Democrats, as expected, responded sharply to news that Republican Rep. John Becker is preparing to introduce six proposed constitutional amendments regarding right-to-work and other labor-union restrictions. "Dangerous, divisive bills like these will only push our economy further out of balance and make people more poor and less safe on the job," House Minority Leader Fred Strahorn and Assistant Minority Whip Brigid Kelly said in a joint statement Tuesday.

= A

## **Stories We're Talking About**

= 9

**Whaley on workers:** Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley has a new Internet ad "touting the dignity of work," writes the Columbus Dispatch's Marty Schladen.

= 9 **Bliss blitz:** Republican operative Corry Bliss, who managed Rob Portman's 2016 re-election campaign, was the subject of a feature by Time's Philip Elliott. The piece included Bliss's biggest stamp on the Portman campaign: "Bliss didn't have much confidence in the RNC's will or capacity. So he built his own data, technology and get-out-the-vote machine. He also advised Portman to ignore Trump."

= 9 **Lehner ed bill:** A new measure from Kettering state Sen. Peggy Lehner seeks to overhaul the Ohio Teacher Evaluation System, writes the Dayton Daily News' Jeremy Kelley.

= 9

**Beagle chasing new seat:** State Sen. Bill Beagle has sniffed out a fetching new political opportunity — the term-limited Republican from the Dayton area will run for a seat on the Miami County commission in 2018, according to the Dayton Daily News.

## **What's Going On Today**

= 9 **8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – Bureau of Workers' Compensation board of directors committee meetings.** *Room 3, Level 2, William Green*



*Building, 30 W. Spring St.*

= 9 **Noon to 1 p.m. – Statehouse holiday concert:** The Kenton Ridge Chamber Singers are scheduled to perform a free concert open to the public. *Ground floor, Ohio Statehouse.*

= 9 **1:30 p.m. – Public Utilities Commission of Ohio meeting.** *Room 11B, 180 E. Broad St.*

= 9 **7 p.m. -- Mike Gibbons' town hall meeting:** The Republican U.S. Senate candidate will talk with voters during his third town hall event. *Parma-Snow Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library, 2121 Snow Road, Parma.*

## = 9 **Five Questions**

= 9 State Rep. John Bocchieri is a Democrat representing the 59th District, which covers most of Mahoning County. He previously served in Congress and the Ohio Senate.

= 9

*1. You rejoined Ohio's legislature in 2015 after leaving several years ago to become a U.S. congressman. What's changed since then?*

= 9

"It is more partisan than it was before. You don't see legislators hanging out together or reaching across the aisle and working to pass legislation. It is 'Our way or the highway' in some cases. That's not good for the country or state."

= 9 *2. You lost your re-election to Congress after voting for the Affordable Care Act. Do you regret that vote?*

= 9

"No, I'd take the same vote again. I don't know if it's vindication or as the world turns, but Obamacare is now more popular than the president of the United States right now. I'm glad that vote helped millions of people. It was not the only reason I lost the race."

= 9

*3. What did you do after leaving Congress and before rejoining the Ohio legislature?*



= 9

"I went back to flying airplanes for the Air Force. I also worked for State Farm insurance."

= 9

4. *Who are the coolest people you've met through your piloting work for the U.S. Air Force and United Airlines?*

= 9 "With the Air Force in 2005, I flew Senators John McCain, Hillary Clinton, Russ Feingold, Susan Collins and Lindsey Graham out of Baghdad and took pictures with them all. Hillary mentioned flying into Baghdad in her book, and my mom had her sign that page when she came to one of the campaign rallies in Ohio."

= 9

5. *Who is your favorite President?*

= 9 "John Kennedy on the Democratic side, and Teddy Roosevelt on the Republican side. Even though I sat in William McKinley's congressional district, I like his vice president, Teddy Roosevelt, better."

## = 9 **Straight From The Source**

= 9 "Just the energy of good tax reform."

= A - U.S. Sen. Rob Portman on Tuesday, after FoxNews anchor Neil Cavuto made a joke about whether the Cincinnati-area Republican needed a pick-me-up like "No-Doz" for a lengthy Senate session on the GOP tax bill.

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9



**One of our aims with Capitol Letter is frequent communication with you, the reader. We value your thoughts and suggestions about the newsletter. What do you think of it? What features do you like? What could we do better? Is there a topic you'd like to see us address? And what time would you like to receive the newsletter? We've been sending it at about 6:15 a.m. Would you like it to arrive earlier? We value your feedback and are committed to making Capitol Letter your essential first read of the morning. Email us at [Capitolletter@cleveland.com](mailto:Capitolletter@cleveland.com).**

= 9

= 9 = 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9

= 9 To ensure receipt of our emails, please add

cleveland.com\_newsletters@update.cleveland.com to your address book or safe sender list.

You received this email because you opted-in to the newsletter. Was it forwarded to you? [Sign](#)

[up now!](#)

= A

= 9

= 9

= 9 [UNSUBSCRIBE](#) | [PRIVACY POLICY](#) | [CONTACT US](#)

= 9

= 9

= A



**From:** Westlake, Libby  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 8:39 AM  
**To:** Westlake, Libby  
**Subject:** E-Clips for 12/20/2017

## HOUSE E-CLIPS

12/20/2017

### **The Columbus Dispatch** *Ohio's Greatest Online Newspaper*

#### **REPORT SUGGESTS STATE AGENCY ALREADY HAS VIOLATED NEW CONTRACTING POLICY**

After The Dispatch revealed the Ohio Department of Administrative Services awarded \$15 million in unbid contracts to favored information-technology consultants, the agency promised to clean up its act.

#### **NEW WHALEY AD PRAISES WORK, PROMISES JOBS**

Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley has released a new internet ad touting the dignity of work as she seeks the Democratic nomination for governor.

### **Dayton Daily News** [www.daytondailynews.com](http://www.daytondailynews.com)

#### **LEHNER'S BILL AIMS TO CHANGE OHIO TEACHER EVALUATION SYSTEM**

The Ohio Teacher Evaluation System (OTES) could see significant changes if a bill recently introduced by State Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering) becomes law.

#### **STATE SENATOR TO RUN FOR MIAMI COUNTY COMMISSION**

State Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) today declared his candidacy for a seat on the Miami County Commission.

## THE ENQUIRER

#### **'RIGHT TO WORK' IN OHIO? GOP LAWMAKER WANTS VOTERS TO CHOOSE**

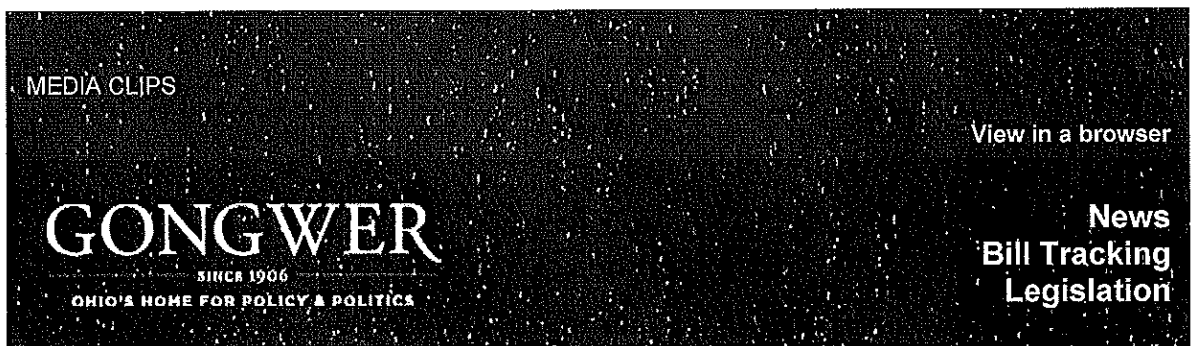
Undeterred by the acrimonious fight over Senate Bill 5, GOP Rep. John Becker wants voters to choose whether Ohio should become a right-to-work state.



**From:** Gongwer News Service  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 8:41 AM  
**To:** Best, Carolyn  
**Subject:** Ohio Media Clips, Wednesday, December 20

## Unsubscribe

It appears that you have subscribed to commercial messages from this sender. To stop receiving such messages from this sender, please unsubscribe



## NEWS

////////////////////////////////////  
**Federal judge dismisses legal effort to stop gas pipeline (Associated Press, 12/20/2017)**

**Ohio attorney general not joining legal fight over net neutrality (Associated Press, 12/20/2017)**

**'Right to work' in Ohio? Becker wants voters to choose (Cincinnati Enquirer, 12/20/2017)**

**Your tax bill savings might not be as big as advertised. The economic development benefits might not be, either (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 12/20/2017)**



**New Whaley ad praises work, promises jobs (Columbus Dispatch, 12/20/2017)**

**Report suggests state agency already has violated new contracting policy (Columbus Dispatch, 12/20/2017)**

**Stivers announces net neutrality bill (Columbus Dispatch, 12/20/2017)**

**Tax revision almost law; one more vote left (Columbus Dispatch, 12/20/2017)**

**Lehner's bill aims to change Ohio teacher evaluation system (Dayton Daily News, 12/20/2017)**

**Report: Ohio cities facing fiscal stress despite improving economy (Dayton Daily News, 12/20/2017)**

**Senate passes GOP tax bill; House to revote Wednesday (Dayton Daily News, 12/20/2017)**

## **EDITORIALS**

////////////////////////////////////

**Editorial: 2012 effort a dog of a law (Columbus Dispatch, 12/20/2017)**

**Editorial: Truth and news under assault (Columbus Dispatch, 12/20/2017)**

This message is provided to you as part of your subscription to Gongwer News Service.

Please send all correspondence to [gongwer@gongwer-oh.com](mailto:gongwer@gongwer-oh.com). This mailbox is not regularly monitored.

[View as a Web Page](#)



Copyright 2017, Gongwer News Service/Ohio  
17 S. High St., Suite 630, Columbus OH 43215

All Rights Reserved. This message and any attachments may not be forwarded or reproduced without  
express permission from Gongwer News Service.

[unsubscribe](#)

= A



**From:** Michalowski, Joe  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 2:43 PM  
**To:** Michalowski, Joe  
**CC:** Basie, Margaret  
**Subject:** Becker & Riedel REVISED Co-sponsor Request: Six Right-to-Work Constitutional Amendments  
**Attachments:** Becker & Riedel Co-sponsor Request- Six Right-to-Work Constitutional Amendments.pdf

**Importance:** High

**Representative Craig S. Riedel**  
has signed on to all six of these constitutional  
amendments as a joint sponsor with Rep.  
Becker.

Each of the six amendments would appear on  
Ohio's general election ballot on November 3,  
2020.

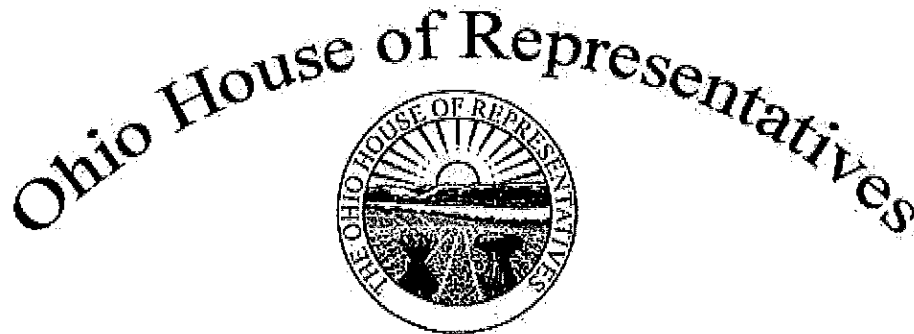
The current co-sponsors of all six are: Rep.  
Thompson, Rep. Brinkman, Rep. Dean, Rep.  
Keller, Rep. Roegner, and Rep. Zeltwanger.  
Rep. Lang is a co-sponsor on the following  
constitutional amendments: private-sector  
right-to-work (amendment #1); public-sector  
prevailing wage (amendment #3); and public-



sector project labor agreements (amendment #5).

Rep. Vitale is a co-sponsor on public-sector right-to-work (amendment #2).

**Revised deadline to co-sponsor is TODAY** at 5:00 PM. Please note which constitutional amendment(s) you wish to co-sponsor.



Representative John Becker  
Ohio's 65<sup>th</sup> House District

**Representative Craig S. Riedel**  
Ohio's 82<sup>nd</sup> House District

MEMORANDUM

**To:** GOP House Members  
**From:** Representative John Becker and Representative Craig S. Riedel  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017  
**RE:** REVISED: Co-Sponsor Request: Six Right-to-Work Constitutional Amendments

---

The following are six separate Right-to-Work related constitutional amendments in no particular sequence. Please join me in co-sponsoring one or more of the below:



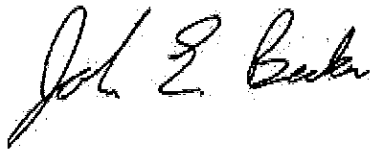
1. Private-sector Right-to-Work – No worker should be required to subsidize a union as a condition of employment. Additionally, this will tell the world that Ohio is “open for business.”
2. Public-sector Right-to-Work – This is about freedom of association. Like for the private sector, no worker should be required to subsidize a union as a condition of employment.
3. Public-sector Prevailing Wage – Repeals the requirement for taxpayers to pay artificially inflated wages, rather than those that are market-based.
4. Public-sector Paycheck Protection – This prohibits state and local government employers from withholding union dues or fees from workers’ wages. Additionally, unions will be prohibited from spending workers’ money on political activities without workers’ consent.
5. Public-sector Project Labor Agreements – This is the Michigan model approved by the US Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. State and local government entities will be prohibited from engaging in contracts that minimize competition for construction projects by requiring that only union or non-union labor can be considered. A level playing field will be required.
6. Public-sector Union Recertification – Requires annual reconsideration and recertification of workers’ bargaining units. This will open up competition for new bargaining units, will give workers a chance to have their voices heard, and will make union leadership accountable to their membership.

These proposals simply ask the General Assembly to put them on the ballot for the people to vote on them individually. Twenty-eight states and four out of five of Ohio’s neighboring states have enacted Right-to-Work laws. Clearly, the nation’s future is for all workers to have the right to work free of the burden of mandated union payments as a condition of employment. Ohio is being left behind, and it is time for the people to decide Ohio’s future.

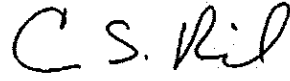
If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation or have any questions, please contact Joe Michalowski at (614) 466-8134 or [joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov). Please indicate which constitutional amendment(s) you wish to co-sponsor. **The deadline to co-sponsor is TODAY- Wednesday, December 20, 2017, at 4:00 P.M.**

Thank you for your time and consideration of this legislation.





John Becker  
State Representative  
65<sup>th</sup> House District



Craig S. Riedel  
State Representative  
82<sup>nd</sup> House District



# Ohio House of Representatives



Representative John Becker  
Ohio's 65<sup>th</sup> House District

Representative Craig S. Riedel  
Ohio's 82<sup>nd</sup> House District

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** GOP House Members  
**From:** Representative John Becker and Representative Craig S. Riedel  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017  
**RE:** REVISED Co-Sponsor Request: Six Right-to-Work Constitutional Amendments

---

The following are six separate Right-to-Work related constitutional amendments in no particular sequence. Please join me in co-sponsoring one or more of the below:

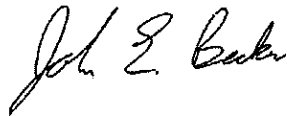
1. Private-sector Right-to-Work – No worker should be required to subsidize a union as a condition of employment. Additionally, this will tell the world that Ohio is "open for business."
2. Public-sector Right-to-Work – This is about freedom of association. Like for the private sector, no worker should be required to subsidize a union as a condition of employment.
3. Public-sector Prevailing Wage – Repeals the requirement for taxpayers to pay artificially inflated wages, rather than those that are market-based.
4. Public-sector Paycheck Protection – This prohibits state and local government employers from withholding union dues or fees from workers' wages. Additionally, unions will be prohibited from spending workers' money on political activities without workers' consent.
5. Public-sector Project Labor Agreements – This is the Michigan model approved by the US Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. State and local government entities will be prohibited from engaging in contracts that minimize competition for construction projects by requiring that only union or non-union labor can be considered. A level playing field will be required.
6. Public-sector Union Recertification – Requires annual reconsideration and recertification of workers' bargaining units. This will open up competition for new bargaining units, will give workers a chance to have their voices heard, and will make union leadership accountable to their membership.



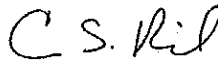
These proposals simply ask the General Assembly to put them on the ballot for the people to vote on them individually. Twenty-eight states and four out of five of Ohio's neighboring states have enacted Right-to-Work laws. Clearly, the nation's future is for all workers to have the right to work free of the burden of mandated union payments as a condition of employment. Ohio is being left behind, and it is time for the people to decide Ohio's future.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation or have any questions, please contact Joe Michalowski at (614) 466-8134 or [joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov). Please indicate which constitutional amendment(s) you wish to co-sponsor. **The deadline to co-sponsor is TODAY-Wednesday, December 20, 2017, at 4:00 P.M.**

Thank you for your time and consideration of this legislation.



John Becker  
State Representative  
65<sup>th</sup> House District



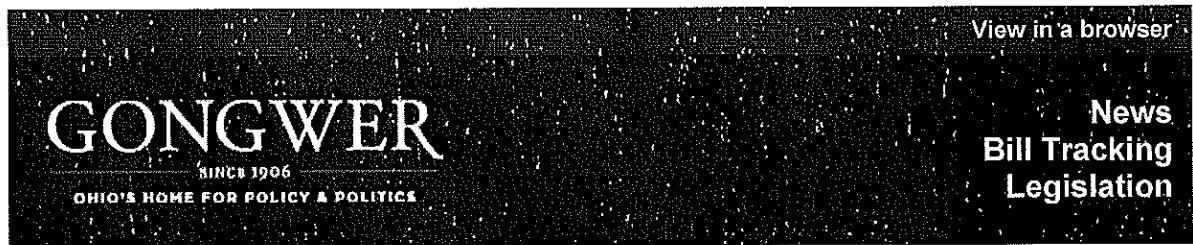
Craig S. Riedel  
State Representative  
82<sup>nd</sup> House District



**From:** gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service  
[gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 12:00 PM  
**To:** Standard\_Subscriber\_misc\_html@gongwer-oh.com  
**Subject:** House & Senate Floor Reports

## Unsubscribe

It appears that you have subscribed to commercial messages from this sender. To stop receiving such messages from this sender, please unsubscribe



## HOUSE ACTIVITY REPORT

////////////////////////////////////

## INTRODUCED

**HJR 7**

**UNION MEMBERSHIP (Becker, J., Riedel, C.)**  
Proposing to enact Section 22 of Article I of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit laws, rules, and agreements that require employees of public sector employers to join or pay dues to an employee organization and to prohibit employee organizations from representing nonmember public sector employees in employment-related matters.



**HJR 8****UNION MEMBERSHIP (Becker, J., Riedel, C.)**

Proposing to enact Section 22 of Article I of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit laws, rules, and agreements that require employees of private sector employers to join or pay dues to an employee organization and to prohibit employee organizations from representing nonmember private sector employees in employment-related matters.

**HJR 9****PREVAILING WAGE (Becker, J., Riedel, C.)**

Proposing to enact Section 43 of Article II of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit a public authority from requiring a contractor on a public improvement to pay the contractor's workers the prevailing rate of wages for work performed on the public improvement.

**HJR 10****PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENTS (Becker, J., Riedel, C.)**

Proposing to enact Section 2 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit certain requirements or prohibitions regarding labor agreements in government contracts.

**HJR 11****COLLECTIVE BARGAINING (Becker, J., Riedel, C.)**

Proposing to enact Section 12 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to subject any public employee collective bargaining representative to an annual election to remain certified as the exclusive representative.

**HJR 12****UNION DUES (Becker, J., Riedel, C.)**

Proposing to enact Section 12 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit dues and other fees payable to an employee organization



from being deducted from the payroll check of a public employee and to prohibit those dues and fees from being used for political purposes unless authorized by the public employee.

**HB 454**

**CEMETERY LOTS (Patterson, J., Arndt, S.)**

To require a township to compensate the owner of certain unused cemetery lots and rights which the township reenters after lack of response from the owner.

= A

## SENATE ACTIVITY REPORT

### INTRODUCED

**SB 246**

**= A STUDENT REMOVAL (Lehner, P., Manning, G.)**

To enact the "SAFE Act" to revise the procedures for emergency removal of a student, to prohibit certain suspensions and expulsions of students in grades pre- kindergarten through three, to require each public school to implement a positive behavior intervention and supports framework in accordance with state standards, and to make an appropriation.

Please send all correspondence to [gongwer@gongwer-oh.com](mailto:gongwer@gongwer-oh.com). This mailbox is not regularly monitored.

[View as a Web Page](#)

Copyright 2017, Gongwer News Service/Ohio



17 S. High St., Suite 630, Columbus OH 43215

All Rights Reserved. This message and any attachments may not be forwarded or reproduced without  
express permission from Gongwer News Service.

[unsubscribe](#)



**From:** Michalowski, Joe  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 4:29 PM  
**To:** Best, Carolyn  
**CC:** Basie, Margaret; Riedel, Craig; JBecker (John@BeckerGOP.com)  
**Subject:** FW: Press Release at Intro- RTW Const Am's  
**Attachments:** Press Release at Intro- Six Right-to-Work Constitutional Amendments.docx

Carolyn,

Reps. Riedel and Becker spoke and have no changes to today's press release. Please send it to Rep. Becker's local and statewide media. Rep. Riedel plans to send it separately to his local media. Thank you for your help as always, and I hope you and your family have a very merry Christmas!

Regards,

**Joe Michalowski**

Legislative Aide

State Representative John Becker | Ohio House District 65  
77 S. High Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor | Columbus, OH 43215-6108  
Office: (614) 466-8134 | [joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov)

---

**From:** Basie, Margaret  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 3:59 PM  
**To:** Michalowski, Joe <Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Press Release at Intro- RTW Const Am's

Joe,

Here is the final draft with Rep. Riedel's edits!

I will send it to our local newspapers. You can send it statewide!

Have a good day,

**Margaret Basie**  
*State Representative Craig Riedel*  
*House District 82*  
*Office Phone: 614-644-5091*



*Office email: rep82@ohiohouse.gov*

**From:** Michalowski, Joe  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 3:18 PM  
**To:** Basie, Margaret <Margaret.Basie@ohiohouse.gov>  
**Cc:** JBecker (John@BeckerGOP.com) <John@BeckerGOP.com>; Riedel, Craig <Craig.Riedel@ohiohouse.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Press Release at Intro- RTW Const Am's

Also, does Rep. Riedel want this press release to go to his local media? Rep. Becker plans to send it to District 65 media & statewide media. Thanks!

Joe Michalowski  
Legislative Aide  
State Representative John Becker | Ohio House District 65  
77 S. High Street, 12th Floor | Columbus, OH 43215-6108  
Office: (614) 466-8134 | [joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov)

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

**From:** "Michalowski, Joe" <Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov>  
**Date:** 12/21/17 2:51 PM (GMT-05:00)  
**To:** "Basie, Margaret" <Margaret.Basie@ohiohouse.gov>  
**Cc:** "Riedel, Craig" <Craig.Riedel@ohiohouse.gov>, "JBecker (John@BeckerGOP.com)" <John@BeckerGOP.com>  
**Subject:** Press Release at Intro- RTW Const Am's

Margaret,

Please see the attached press release to be sent today. Feel free to make changes & add a quote from your boss. I know that some people are beginning to leave early, so it would good to give the communications staff enough time to send it out once we're done.

Also attached is today's Journal which includes the HJR numbers. Thanks, and merry Christmas!



# Joe Michalowski

Legislative Aide

State Representative John Becker | Ohio House District 65

77 S. High Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor | Columbus, OH 43215-6108

Office: (614) 466-8134 | [joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov)

---

**From:** Becker, John

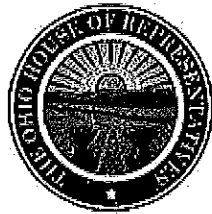
**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 2:43 PM

**To:** Michalowski, Joe <[Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov)>

**Cc:** JBecker ([John@BeckerGOP.com](mailto:John@BeckerGOP.com)) <[John@BeckerGOP.com](mailto:John@BeckerGOP.com)>

**Subject:** Press Release at Co-sponsor- Six Right-to-Work Constitutional Amendments...





# OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Majority Communications Department*

**For Immediate Release:**

December 21, 2017

**Contact:** Joe Michalowski

(614) 466-8134

## **State Representatives John Becker and Craig S. Riedel announce Introduction of Six Right-to-Work Ohio Constitutional Amendments**

COLUMBUS—State Representatives John Becker (R-Union Township) and Craig S. Riedel (R-Defiance) today announced that nine additional Members have signed onto one or more of six Right-to-Work related Ohio constitutional amendments.

- HJR 8: Private-sector Right-to-Work – No worker should be required to subsidize a union as a condition of employment. Furthermore, this amendment will tell the world that Ohio is “open for business.”
- HJR 7: Public-sector Right-to-Work – This legislation is about freedom of association. Like for the private sector, no worker should be required to subsidize a union as a condition of employment.
- HJR 9: Public-sector Prevailing Wage – Repeals the requirement for taxpayers to pay artificially inflated wages, rather than those that are market-based.
- HJR 12: Public-sector Paycheck Protection – This amendment prohibits state and local government employers from withholding union dues or fees from workers’ wages. Additionally, unions will be prohibited from spending workers’ money on political activities without workers’ consent.
- HJR 10: Public-sector Project Labor Agreements – This legislation is the Michigan model approved by the US Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. State and local government entities will be prohibited from minimizing competition for construction projects by requiring that only union or non-union labor can be considered. A level playing field will be required.
- HJR 11: Public-sector Union Recertification – Requires annual reconsideration and recertification of workers’ bargaining units. This amendment will open up



competition for new bargaining units, will give workers a chance to have their voices heard, and will make union leadership accountable to their membership.

With 11 State Representatives sponsoring one or more of them, Becker and Riedel are asking Ohio's General Assembly to put all of them on the ballot for the people to vote on them individually. "Now that 28 states- and four out of five of Ohio's neighboring states- have enacted Right-to-Work laws, the nation's future is for all workers to have the right to work free of the burden of mandated union payments as a condition of employment," said Becker. "Ohio is being left behind, and it is time for the people to decide Ohio's future," Becker continued. "I believe in individual freedom, and the right of a worker to be able to choose whether or not they want to belong to a union," Riedel added. "By bringing these Right-to-Work amendments forward as ballot issues, we are allowing the citizens of Ohio to have the final say."



**From:** Best, Carolyn  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 4:56 PM  
**To:** Miller, Brad; Westlake, Libby; Slack, Cora  
**CC:** Michalowski, Joe; Lundregan, Scott; Basie, Margaret  
**Subject:** PR ALERT: Becker/Riedel (sending at 5:10)



## OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Majority Communications Department*

**For Immediate Release:**  
December 21, 2017

**Contact:** Joe Michalowski  
(614) 466-8134

### **State Representatives John Becker and Craig S. Riedel announce Introduction of Six Right-to-Work Ohio Constitutional Amendments**

COLUMBUS—State Representatives John Becker (R-Union Township) and Craig S. Riedel (R-Defiance) today announced that nine additional Members have signed onto one or more of six Right-to-Work related Ohio constitutional amendments.

- HJR 8: Private-sector Right-to-Work – No worker should be required to subsidize a union as a condition of employment. Furthermore, this amendment will tell the world that Ohio is “open for business.”
- HJR 7: Public-sector Right-to-Work – This legislation is about freedom of association. Like for the private sector, no worker should be required to subsidize a union as a condition of employment.
- HJR 9: Public-sector Prevailing Wage – Repeals the requirement for taxpayers to pay artificially inflated wages, rather than those that are market-based.
- HJR 12: Public-sector Paycheck Protection – This amendment prohibits state and local government employers from withholding union dues or fees from workers’ wages. Additionally, unions will be prohibited from spending workers’ money on political activities without workers’ consent.



- HJR 10: Public-sector Project Labor Agreements – This legislation is the Michigan model approved by the US Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. State and local government entities will be prohibited from minimizing competition for construction projects by requiring that only union or non-union labor can be considered. A level playing field will be required.

- HJR 11: Public-sector Union Recertification – Requires annual reconsideration and recertification of workers' bargaining units. This amendment will open up competition for new bargaining units, will give workers a chance to have their voices heard, and will make union leadership accountable to their membership.

With 11 State Representatives sponsoring one or more of them, Becker and Riedel are asking Ohio's General Assembly to put all of them on the ballot for the people to vote on them individually. "Now that 28 states- and four out of five of Ohio's neighboring states- have enacted Right-to-Work laws, the nation's future is for all workers to have the right to work free of the burden of mandated union payments as a condition of employment," said Becker. "Ohio is being left behind, and it is time for the people to decide Ohio's future," Becker continued. "I believe in individual freedom, and the right of a worker to be able to choose whether or not they want to belong to a union," Riedel added. "By bringing these Right-to-Work amendments forward as ballot issues, we are allowing the citizens of Ohio to have the final say."



**From:** Best, Carolyn  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 4:57 PM  
**To:** Michalowski, Joe  
**CC:** Basie, Margaret; Riedel, Craig; JBecker (John@BeckerGOP.com)  
**Subject:** RE: Press Release at Intro- RTW Const Am's

Will do. Thanks, and Merry Christmas!

## **Carolyn Best**

*Director of Communications*  
Office of Speaker Clifford A. Rosenberger/Ohio House of Representatives  
77 S. High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215  
**Office Phone:** 614.644.1739  
**Cell Phone:** 740.815.9635

---

**From:** Michalowski, Joe  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 4:29 PM  
**To:** Best, Carolyn <Carolyn.Best@ohiohouse.gov>  
**Cc:** Basie, Margaret <Margaret.Basie@ohiohouse.gov>; Riedel, Craig <Craig.Riedel@ohiohouse.gov>; JBecker (John@BeckerGOP.com) <John@BeckerGOP.com>  
**Subject:** FW: Press Release at Intro- RTW Const Am's

Carolyn,

Reps. Riedel and Becker spoke and have no changes to today's press release. Please send it to Rep. Becker's local and statewide media. Rep. Riedel plans to send it separately to his local media. Thank you for your help as always, and I hope you and your family have a very merry Christmas!

Regards,

## **Joe Michalowski**

Legislative Aide  
State Representative John Becker | Ohio House District 65  
77 S. High Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor | Columbus, OH 43215-6108  
Office: (614) 466-8134 | [joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov)



**From:** Basie, Margaret  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 3:59 PM  
**To:** Michalowski, Joe <[Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Press Release at Intro- RTW Const Am's

Joe,

Here is the final draft with Rep. Riedel's edits!

I will send it to our local newspapers. You can send it statewide!

Have a good day,

**Margaret Basie**  
*State Representative Craig Riedel*  
*House District 82*  
*Office Phone: 614-644-5091*  
*Office email: [rep82@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:rep82@ohiohouse.gov)*

---

**From:** Michalowski, Joe  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 3:18 PM  
**To:** Basie, Margaret <[Margaret.Basie@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Margaret.Basie@ohiohouse.gov)>  
**Cc:** JBecker ([John@BeckerGOP.com](mailto:John@BeckerGOP.com)) <[John@BeckerGOP.com](mailto:John@BeckerGOP.com)>; Riedel, Craig <[Craig.Riedel@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Craig.Riedel@ohiohouse.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Press Release at Intro- RTW Const Am's

Also, does Rep. Riedel want this press release to go to his local media? Rep. Becker plans to send it to District 65 media & statewide media. Thanks!

Joe Michalowski  
Legislative Aide  
State Representative John Becker | Ohio House District 65  
77 S. High Street, 12th Floor | Columbus, OH 43215-6108  
Office: (614) 466-8134 | [joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov)

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----  
**From:** "Michalowski, Joe" <[Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov)>  
**Date:** 12/21/17 2:51 PM (GMT-05:00)  
**To:** "Basie, Margaret" <[Margaret.Basie@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Margaret.Basie@ohiohouse.gov)>



Cc: "Riedel, Craig" <[Craig.Riedel@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Craig.Riedel@ohiohouse.gov)>, "JBecker (John@BeckerGOP.com)" <[John@BeckerGOP.com](mailto:John@BeckerGOP.com)>  
Subject: Press Release at Intro- RTW Const Am's

Margaret,

Please see the attached press release to be sent today. Feel free to make changes & add a quote from your boss. I know that some people are beginning to leave early, so it would good to give the communications staff enough time to send it out once we're done.

Also attached is today's Journal which includes the HJR numbers. Thanks, and merry Christmas!

## Joe Michalowski

Legislative Aide

State Representative John Becker | Ohio House District 65

77 S. High Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor | Columbus, OH 43215-6108

Office: (614) 466-8134 | [joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov)

---

**From:** Becker, John

**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 2:43 PM

**To:** Michalowski, Joe <[Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov)>

**Cc:** JBecker ([John@BeckerGOP.com](mailto:John@BeckerGOP.com)) <[John@BeckerGOP.com](mailto:John@BeckerGOP.com)>

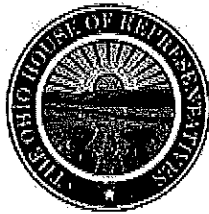
**Subject:** Press Release at Co-sponsor- Six Right-to-Work Constitutional Amendments...



**From:** Best, Carolyn  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 4:58 PM  
**To:** Lenzo, Mike; Kasych, Shawn  
**Subject:** FW: PR ALERT: Becker/Riedel (sending at 5:10)

FYI

**From:** Best, Carolyn  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 4:56 PM  
**To:** Miller, Brad <Brad.Miller@ohiohouse.gov>; Westlake, Libby <Libby.Westlake@ohiohouse.gov>; Slack, Cora <Cora.Slack@ohiohouse.gov>  
**Cc:** Michalowski, Joe <Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov>; Lundregan, Scott <Scott.Lundregan@ohiohouse.gov>; Basie, Margaret <Margaret.Basie@ohiohouse.gov>  
**Subject:** PR ALERT: Becker/Riedel (sending at 5:10)



## OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Majority Communications Department*

**For Immediate Release:**  
December 21, 2017

**Contact:** Joe Michalowski  
(614) 466-8134

### **State Representatives John Becker and Craig S. Riedel announce Introduction of Six Right-to-Work Ohio Constitutional Amendments**

COLUMBUS—State Representatives John Becker (R-Union Township) and Craig S. Riedel (R-Defiance) today announced that nine additional Members have signed onto one or more of six Right-to-Work related Ohio constitutional amendments.

- HJR 8: Private-sector Right-to-Work – No worker should be required to subsidize a union as a condition of employment. Furthermore, this amendment will tell the world that Ohio is “open for business.”



- HJR 7: Public-sector Right-to-Work – This legislation is about freedom of association. Like for the private sector, no worker should be required to subsidize a union as a condition of employment.

- HJR 9: Public-sector Prevailing Wage – Repeals the requirement for taxpayers to pay artificially inflated wages, rather than those that are market-based.

- HJR 12: Public-sector Paycheck Protection – This amendment prohibits state and local government employers from withholding union dues or fees from workers' wages. Additionally, unions will be prohibited from spending workers' money on political activities without workers' consent.

- HJR 10: Public-sector Project Labor Agreements – This legislation is the Michigan model approved by the US Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. State and local government entities will be prohibited from minimizing competition for construction projects by requiring that only union or non-union labor can be considered. A level playing field will be required.

- HJR 11: Public-sector Union Recertification – Requires annual reconsideration and recertification of workers' bargaining units. This amendment will open up competition for new bargaining units, will give workers a chance to have their voices heard, and will make union leadership accountable to their membership.

With 11 State Representatives sponsoring one or more of them, Becker and Riedel are asking Ohio's General Assembly to put all of them on the ballot for the people to vote on them individually. "Now that 28 states- and four out of five of Ohio's neighboring states- have enacted Right-to-Work laws, the nation's future is for all workers to have the right to work free of the burden of mandated union payments as a condition of employment," said Becker. "Ohio is being left behind, and it is time for the people to decide Ohio's future," Becker continued. "I believe in individual freedom, and the right of a worker to be able to choose whether or not they want to belong to a union," Riedel added. "By bringing these Right-to-Work amendments forward as ballot issues, we are allowing the citizens of Ohio to have the final say."



**From:** Miller, Brad  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 5:00 PM  
**To:** Best, Carolyn; Westlake, Libby; Slack, Cora  
**CC:** Michalowski, Joe; Lundregan, Scott; Basie, Margaret  
**Subject:** RE: PR ALERT: Becker/Riedel (sending at 5:10)

**From:** Best, Carolyn  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 4:56 PM  
**To:** Miller, Brad <Brad.Miller@ohiohouse.gov>; Westlake, Libby  
<Libby.Westlake@ohiohouse.gov>; Slack, Cora <Cora.Slack@ohiohouse.gov>  
**Cc:** Michalowski, Joe <Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov>; Lundregan, Scott  
<Scott.Lundregan@ohiohouse.gov>; Basie, Margaret  
<Margaret.Basie@ohiohouse.gov>  
**Subject:** PR ALERT: Becker/Riedel (sending at 5:10)



## OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Majority Communications Department*

**For Immediate Release:**  
December 21, 2017

**Contact:** Joe Michalowski  
(614) 466-8134

### **State Representatives John Becker and Craig S. Riedel announce Introduction of Six Right-to-Work Ohio Constitutional Amendments**

COLUMBUS—State Representatives John Becker (R-Union Township) and Craig S. Riedel (R-Defiance) today announced that nine additional Members (members) have signed onto one or more of six Right-to-Work related Ohio constitutional amendments.

- HJR 8: Private-sector Right-to-Work – No worker should be required to subsidize a union as a condition of employment. Furthermore, this amendment will tell the world that Ohio is “open for business.”



•HJR 7: Public-sector Right-to-Work – This legislation is about freedom of association. Like for the private sector, no worker should be required to subsidize a union as a condition of employment.

•HJR 9: Public-sector Prevailing Wage – Repeals the requirement for taxpayers to pay artificially inflated wages, rather than those that are market-based.

•HJR 12: Public-sector Paycheck Protection – This amendment prohibits state and local government employers from withholding union dues or fees from workers' wages. Additionally, unions will be prohibited from spending workers' money on political activities without workers' consent.

•HJR 10: Public-sector Project Labor Agreements – This legislation is the Michigan model approved by the US Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. State and local government entities will be prohibited from minimizing competition for construction projects by requiring that only union or non-union labor can be considered. A level playing field will be required.

•HJR 11: Public-sector Union Recertification – Requires annual reconsideration and recertification of workers' bargaining units. This amendment will open up competition for new bargaining units, will give workers a chance to have their voices heard, and will make union leadership accountable to their membership.

With 11 State Representatives (state representatives) sponsoring one or more of them, Becker and Riedel are asking Ohio's General Assembly to put all of them on the ballot for the people to vote on them individually. "Now that 28 states- and four out of five of Ohio's neighboring states- (turn into long dashes) have enacted Right-to-Work laws, the nation's future is for all workers to have the right to work free of the burden of mandated union payments as a condition of employment," said Becker. "Ohio is being left behind, and it is time for the people to decide Ohio's future," Becker continued.

(insert space)

"I believe in individual freedom, and the right of a worker to be able to choose whether or not they want to belong to a union," Riedel added. "By bringing these Right-to-Work amendments forward as ballot issues, we are allowing the citizens of Ohio to have the final say."



**From:** Westlake, Libby  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 5:01 PM  
**To:** Miller, Brad; Best, Carolyn; Slack, Cora  
**CC:** Michalowski, Joe; Lundregan, Scott; Basie, Margaret  
**Subject:** RE: PR ALERT: Becker/Riedel (sending at 5:10)

## **Libby Westlake**

Special Assistant to the Speaker for Correspondence  
Office of Speaker Clifford A. Rosenberger | Ohio House of Representatives  
(614) 728-5448

---

**From:** Miller, Brad  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 5:00 PM  
**To:** Best, Carolyn <Carolyn.Best@ohiohouse.gov>; Westlake, Libby <Libby.Westlake@ohiohouse.gov>; Slack, Cora <Cora.Slack@ohiohouse.gov>  
**Cc:** Michalowski, Joe <Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov>; Lundregan, Scott <Scott.Lundregan@ohiohouse.gov>; Basie, Margaret <Margaret.Basie@ohiohouse.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: PR ALERT: Becker/Riedel (sending at 5:10)

---

**From:** Best, Carolyn  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 4:56 PM  
**To:** Miller, Brad <Brad.Miller@ohiohouse.gov>; Westlake, Libby <Libby.Westlake@ohiohouse.gov>; Slack, Cora <Cora.Slack@ohiohouse.gov>  
**Cc:** Michalowski, Joe <Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov>; Lundregan, Scott <Scott.Lundregan@ohiohouse.gov>; Basie, Margaret <Margaret.Basie@ohiohouse.gov>  
**Subject:** PR ALERT: Becker/Riedel (sending at 5:10)



**OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
*Majority Communications Department*

**For Immediate Release:**  
December 21, 2017

**Contact:** Joe Michalowski  
(614) 466-8134



## **State Representatives John Becker and Craig S. Riedel Announce Introduction of Six Right-to-Work Ohio Constitutional Amendments**

COLUMBUS—State Representatives John Becker (R-Union Township) and Craig S. Riedel (R-Defiance) today announced that nine additional Members (members) have signed onto one or more of six Right-to-Work related Ohio constitutional amendments.

- HJR 8: Private-sector Right-to-Work – No worker should be required to subsidize a union as a condition of employment. Furthermore, this amendment will tell the world that Ohio is “open for business.”
- HJR 7: Public-sector Right-to-Work – This legislation is about freedom of association. Like for the private sector, no worker should be required to subsidize a union as a condition of employment.
- HJR 9: Public-sector Prevailing Wage – Repeals the requirement for taxpayers to pay artificially inflated wages, rather than those that are market-based.
- HJR 12: Public-sector Paycheck Protection – This amendment prohibits state and local government employers from withholding union dues or fees from workers’ wages. Additionally, unions will be prohibited from spending workers’ money on political activities without workers’ consent.
- HJR 10: Public-sector Project Labor Agreements – This legislation is the Michigan model approved by the US Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. State and local government entities will be prohibited from minimizing competition for construction projects by requiring that only union or non-union labor can be considered. A level playing field will be required.
- HJR 11: Public-sector Union Recertification – Requires annual reconsideration and recertification of workers’ bargaining units. This amendment will open up competition for new bargaining units, will give workers a chance to have their voices heard, and will make union leadership accountable to their membership.

With 11 State Representatives (state representatives) sponsoring one or more of them, Becker and Riedel are asking Ohio’s General Assembly to put all of them on the ballot for the people to vote on them individually. “Now that 28 states- and four out of five of Ohio’s neighboring states- (turn into long dashes) have enacted Right-to-Work laws, the nation’s future is for all workers to have the right to work free of the burden of mandated union payments as a condition of employment,” said Becker. “Ohio is being left behind, and it is time for the people to decide Ohio’s future,” Becker continued.  
(insert space)



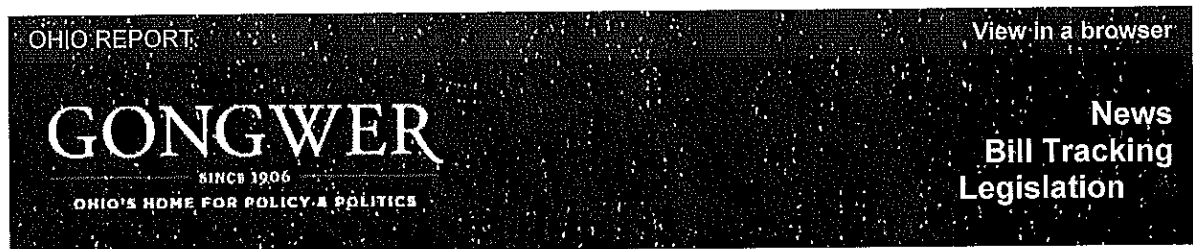
"I believe in individual freedom, and the right of a worker to be able to choose whether or not they want to belong to a union," Riedel added. "By bringing these Right-to-Work amendments forward as ballot issues, we are allowing the citizens of Ohio to have the final say."



**From:** Gongwer News Service  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 6:05 PM  
**To:** Best, Carolyn  
**Subject:** Ohio Report, Thursday, December 21, 2017  
**Attachments:** Dec21House.htm; Dec21Senate.htm; 171221dayplan.htm; Dec21.htm

## Unsubscribe

It appears that you have subscribed to commercial messages from this sender. To stop receiving such messages from this sender, please unsubscribe



## OHIO REPORT THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

---

**Speaker Tasks Universities With Engaging High Schoolers Impacted By Opiate Epidemic**

**Right-To-Work, Prevailing Wage Proposals Unveiled In House**

**Children Services Agencies See Growing Burden From Drug Crisis; Overdose Deaths Tallied**

**House Republican Announces Plan To Crack Down Drug Dealers**

**'Significant Update' On Belmont County Ethane Cracker Slated For 2018**



## Federal Judge Dismisses Property Owners' Lawsuit Against Nexus Pipeline

## Groups Highlight Economic Impacts Of 'Dreamers' In Push To Restore DACA

## High Court Green Lights Tax Board To Take Up \$500K NASCAR Appeal

## Poll Finds Democrats With Big Lead In Generic Congressional Ballots; Bacon Touts Fundraising; Scott Officially Enters District 12 Race...

## ACTIVITY REPORTS

House

## Senate

## CALENDARS

## Day Planner

Please send all correspondence to [gongwer@gongwer-oh.com](mailto:gongwer@gongwer-oh.com). This mailbox is not regularly monitored.

[View as a Web Page](#)

Copyright 2017, Gongwer News Service/Ohio  
17 S. High St., Suite 630, Columbus OH 43215

All Rights Reserved. This message and any attachments may not be forwarded or reproduced without express permission from Gongwer News Service.



unsubscribe

=A





## House Activity for Thursday, December 21, 2017

### INTRODUCED

**HJR 7** ■ **UNION MEMBERSHIP (Becker, J., Riedel, C.)** Proposing to enact Section 22 of Article I of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit laws, rules, and agreements that require employees of public sector employers to join or pay dues to an employee organization and to prohibit employee organizations from representing nonmember public sector employees in employment-related matters.

**Gongwer Coverage**

---

**HJR 8** ■ **UNION MEMBERSHIP (Becker, J., Riedel, C.)** Proposing to enact Section 22 of Article I of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit laws, rules, and agreements that require employees of private sector employers to join or pay dues to an employee organization and to prohibit employee organizations from representing nonmember private sector employees in employment-related matters.

**Gongwer Coverage**

---

**HJR 9** ■ **PREVAILING WAGE (Becker, J., Riedel, C.)** Proposing to enact Section 43 of Article II of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit a public authority from requiring a contractor on a public improvement to pay the contractor's workers the prevailing rate of wages for work performed on the public improvement.

**Gongwer Coverage**

---

**HJR 10** ■ **PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENTS (Becker, J., Riedel, C.)** Proposing to enact Section 2 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit certain requirements or prohibitions regarding labor agreements in government contracts.

**Gongwer Coverage**

---

**HJR 11** ■ **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING (Becker, J., Riedel, C.)** Proposing to enact Section 12 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to subject any public employee collective bargaining representative to an annual election to remain certified as the exclusive representative.

**Gongwer Coverage**



---

**HJR 12**

**UNION DUES (Becker, J., Riedel, C.)** Proposing to enact Section 12 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit dues and other fees payable to an employee organization from being deducted from the payroll check of a public employee and to prohibit those dues and fees from being used for political purposes unless authorized by the public employee.  
**Gongwer Coverage**

---


**HB 454**

**CEMETERY LOTS (Patterson, J., Arndt, S.)** To require a township to compensate the owner of certain unused cemetery lots and rights which the township reenters after lack of response from the owner. Am. 517.073

---

17 S. High St., Suite 630  
Columbus Ohio 43215  
Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: [gongwer@gongwer-oh.com](mailto:gongwer@gongwer-oh.com)

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger,  
Jon Reed, Staff Writers

Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

© 2017, Gongwer News Service, Inc. Reproduction of this publication in whole or in part without the express permission of the publisher is in violation of the federal Copyright Law (17 USC 101 et seq.) as is retransmission by facsimile or any other electronic means, including electronic mail.





## Senate Activity for Thursday, December 21, 2017

### INTRODUCED


#### **SB 246**

**STUDENT REMOVAL** (Lehner, P., Manning, G.) To enact the "SAFE Act" to revise the procedures for emergency removal of a student, to prohibit certain suspensions and expulsions of students in grades pre- kindergarten through three, to require each public school to implement a positive behavior intervention and supports framework in accordance with state standards, and to make an appropriation. Am. 3302.03, 3313.534, 3313.66, 3313.661, 3313.668, and 3319.46 and to enact section 3319.237

17 S. High St., Suite 630  
Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: [gongwer@gongwer-oh.com](mailto:gongwer@gongwer-oh.com)

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger,  
Jon Reed, Staff Writers

Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

© 2017, Gongwer News Service, Inc. Reproduction of this publication in whole or in part without the express permission of the publisher is in violation of the federal Copyright Law (17 USC 101 et seq.) as is retransmission by facsimile or any other electronic means, including electronic mail.





## **Daily Activity Planner for Friday, December 22**

### **Legislative Committees**

No legislative committees scheduled.

### **Agency Calendar**

No agency meetings scheduled.

### **Event Planner**

No events scheduled.

17 S. High St., Suite 630  
Columbus Ohio 43215  
Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: [gongwer@gongwer-oh.com](mailto:gongwer@gongwer-oh.com)

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger,  
Jon Reed, Staff Writers

©2017, Gongwer News Service, Inc. Reproduction of this publication in whole or in part without the express permission of the publisher is in violation of the federal Copyright Law (17 USC 101 et seq.) as is retransmission by facsimile or any other electronic means, including electronic mail.





**Volume #86, Report #245 -- Thursday, December 21, 2017**

## **Speaker Tasks Universities With Engaging High Schoolers Impacted By Opiate Epidemic**

University presidents are coming together to devise strategies for reaching out to youth impacted by the opiate epidemic.

They're doing so at the request of Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville), who said he was recently inspired by a group of Waverly City Schools students impacted by addiction.

Many students in that district live with someone other than their parents and lack access to role models who can highlight life skills and opportunities to grow, he said in a recent column.



Speaker Rosenberger

Speaker Rosenberger said he believes universities can serve as the sources of those mentors.

"It's our communities who are going to help us in the drug epidemic, so how can we get college students to be those big brothers and sisters and give them some credit maybe for service-oriented things," he told reporters last week.

Another facet of his charge to universities is to consider how at-risk high school students can volunteer to earn credits toward college tuition, he said.

"Maybe they earn some credit or some dollars toward college credit so that they can have some ability to go out and do something," Speaker Rosenberger said.

Because reaching out to underserved populations dealing with the opiate crisis will be a priority for the legislature in 2018, he said he's eyeing legislation that would implement such mentorship and volunteer programs statewide. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, December 15, 2017)

University presidents began brainstorming immediately after meeting with the speaker earlier this month and will come back together in January to decide which ideas should be proposed, said Bruce Johnson, president of the Inter-University Council of Ohio.



Institutions have an essential role in the state's ongoing fight against opioids, he said, pointing to research that shows Ohioans with college degrees are 14 times less likely to die of overdoses than those who have only high school diplomas.

"One of the fundamental ways to attack opiate abuse in the state is to have a higher percentage of people in the state obtain a higher education," Mr. Johnson said.

"Students, particularly in hard-to-reach areas of the state, having mentors would help them manage their way through the difficulties and find their way to a public university," he added.

In areas of the state where the opiate epidemic has hit hardest, encouraging students to want to go to college is key because they often don't see higher education as a potential pathway, Mr. Johnson said.

"I think the thing that's really going to give students hope is a pathway which involves access to higher education," he said.

For that reason, it's possible the forthcoming plan will propose financial assistance for high school students who participate in a mentorship program and can show perseverance, Mr. Johnson said.

"Earning your way toward a college scholarship would be a great use of the state's resources," he said.

Any legislative proposals that come from the president's recommendations would be in addition to what universities are already doing on the opiate front, he said. Each university has undertaken initiatives to address the issue.

At Ohio University, low-income patients with substance abuse issues can receive free or low-cost treatment and drug dependent mothers-to-be are eligible for access to medication-assisted treatment programs, obstetrical care, social service benefits and other services. Similar services are provided at other university hospitals throughout the state.

Meanwhile, University of Akron is looking to help students who may be dealing with addiction by working with community agencies to develop supports and programming.

In the research realm, the University of Cincinnati recently received a \$1.5 million Third Frontier grant aimed at the epidemic. That total is in addition to \$32 million in research funding that's been awarded to the university to be put toward the cause.

Other universities are offering up their own dollars in an effort to find innovative solutions to the state's drug problem. The new Opioid Innovation Fund at Ohio State University will provide \$1 million in grants to public-private partnerships that develop programs or technologies to reduce the burden of the opiate crisis.



## **Right-To-Work, Prevailing Wage Proposals Unveiled In House**

A slate of ballot proposals targeting labor laws was introduced Thursday in the House, drawing immediate pushback from one of the state's largest union groups.

The six joint resolutions from Rep. John Becker (R-Union Twp.) and Rep. Craig Riedel (R-Defiance) would ban mandatory union dues for both public and private employees, limit prevailing wage and make other changes guaranteed to spark protests among Ohio's unions.

If passed by lawmakers, the issues would be placed on the 2020 ballot for voters to weigh in, according to Rep. Becker. He said he chose the resolution route after his prior legislative efforts went nowhere.

"It has to do with making Ohio more competitive," Rep. Becker said in an interview. "Currently, Ohio is being left behind. Four out of five of Ohio's neighboring states are right to work. With 28 (right-to-work) states in the union, the trend is clearly in that direction."

Two of the resolutions (HJR 7 & HJR 8) would ban any laws, rules or agreements requiring public and private sector employees to join or pay union dues. They would also prohibit unions from representing non-members in employment-related matters.

Other resolutions would:

- Prevent a public authority from requiring a contractor on a public improvement project to pay workers the prevailing rate of wages (HJR 9).
- Forbid certain requirements or prohibitions regarding labor agreements in government contracts (HJR 10).
- Subject any public employee collective bargaining representative to an annual election to remain certified as the exclusive representative (HJR 11).
- Prohibit dues and other fees from being deducted from the payroll check of a public employee and prohibit those fees from being used for political purposes unless authorized by the employee (HJR 12).

Along with Messrs. Becker and Riedel, nine other representatives have signed on as cosponsors of one or more of the resolutions.

Rep. Becker said Republican leaders, House Speaker candidates and Republican gubernatorial candidates have all told him the same thing: If Ohio is to become a right-to-work state, it needs to be a decision driven by voters.



"They've all got this one consistent theme: the voters have to decide," Rep. Becker said. "I'm taking them at their word and saying fine, let's move forward with that. That's what these resolutions would do. They go on the ballot for people to decide."

Brad Miller, a spokesman for House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville), said the speaker will review the proposals.

"The issue of right-to-work has been brought forward numerous times in recent years, and it always generates an important and interesting discussion amongst the caucus," Mr. Miller said. "Since Rep. Becker's resolution was introduced just today, Speaker Rosenberger will review the legislation and will seek input from caucus members before any potential future actions are determined."

Tim Burga, president of the Ohio AFL-CIO, said that neither employers nor employees in Ohio are seeking these changes.

"These proposals are a frontal assault on workers," Mr. Burga said. "It does three things: It takes away rights at work, it drives down wages, and it strips workers of their political beliefs. It's really policies that attack the foundation of what's been a catalyst to create Ohio's working class."

Ohio House Democrats will likewise fight the proposals should they gain traction, with Minority Leader Fred Strahorn (D-Dayton) calling them "dangerous, divisive bills."

"Taxpayers expect us to work together to increase opportunity and create jobs with wages and benefits that can sustain a family," Rep. Strahorn said. "These anti-worker, anti-family restrictions will do the exact opposite."

Opponents point to the public's rejection of 2011's Senate Bill 5 - in which voters voted 62-38% to repeal a law that limited collective bargaining for public employees - as evidence that Ohioans don't support such a move. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, November 8, 2011)

For that reason, Gov. John Kasich, commenting on prior right-to-work legislation from Rep. Becker and others, has said right-to-work is "not on my agenda."

But Rep. Becker contends that SB5 (129<sup>th</sup> General Assembly) wasn't truly a right-to-work bill was but more focused on strikes, benefits and union negotiations. In his view, voters haven't weighed in on the issue since 1958 when voters by a 63-36% margin rejected a right-to-work amendment.

Rep. Becker said he approached Rep. Ryan Smith (R-Bidwell) and Rep. Larry Householder (R-Glenford) about supporting the resolutions but neither has signed on at this point as a cosponsor. Both men are vying to succeed Rep. Rosenberger as speaker.

But the sponsor said he believes the measures would have support in the caucus.



"In conversations with plenty of other colleagues beyond those nine (cosponsors) it's a whole lot of, 'We don't want to go on record with it' or 'we want to see which direction it goes,'" Rep. Becker said. "They just don't want to be in front of it right out of the gate. There's a lot of support, it's just not necessarily public."

Mr. Burga, though, said the proposals are a "political assault authored by out-of-state interests."

"It's never a good time to introduce bad policy but again this is an extreme measure without a constituency," Mr. Burga said. "I would say Ohioans deserve better than this. Just like on Senate Bill 5, we will fight these proposals and encourage legislators to work together to find common ground to create jobs and raise wages."

### **Children Services Agencies See Growing Burden From Drug Crisis; Overdose Deaths Tallied**

The opiate epidemic continues to put a strain on Ohio's foster care system, with a thousand more kids expected to spend the holidays in foster care this year compared to 2016, a report released Thursday found.

The Public Children Services Association of Ohio said the drug problem is driving a dramatic surge in demand for foster care, with the number of children in agency custody rising from 12,654 in July 2013 to 15,145 last July.

At this rate, the state would reach 20,000 kids in care by 2020, with the cost of placing them in foster homes and residential facilities rising to more than \$500 million per year.

"We are sounding the alarm now - we need help," PCSAO Executive Director Angela Sausser said in a statement. "We need substantially more state resources before we lose the ability to provide essential services to vulnerable children."

The data indicate increasing rates of growth in the number of children in care, with the total rising from 15,145 on July 1 to more than 15,500 on Oct. 1.

The association pointed to some help it received from the legislature in the budget bill (HB 49), an additional \$15 million. Yet foster care placement costs have increased by about \$45 million since last year, not counting staffing or other agency services, the group said.

"Ohio needs a long-term solution to this crisis - and leadership to get us there before agency budgets collapse and our workforce jumps ship," Ms. Sausser said. "We already have a lack of available foster homes in Ohio. With the projected increases, we will have children sleeping in county agency lobbies with no available foster family to take them in."

Other state efforts include work by Attorney General Mike DeWine's office including a 14-county pilot project designed to help families affected by parental opioid abuse. (See



Gongwer Ohio Report, March 24, 2017) Another effort by the AG's office provides more funding for children services agencies to boost the number of foster families available. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, December 20, 2017)

Ms. Sausser pointed to work in California, where that state is realigning services along a continuum of care.

The increase in placements, she said, doesn't include the number of children placed with relatives.

"Placing abused and neglected children with kin leads to better long-term outcomes and is far less costly to government, but it means that grandparents on fixed incomes and aunts with kids of their own must find a way to pay for food, clothes, child care and other expenses," she said. "The legislature stepped up again and provided \$15 million a year in federal funds to create child care assistance for kinship families. However, that program has been delayed."

**Overdose Totals:** In a related development, new data released by the federal government show Ohio with the second-highest rate of drug overdose deaths in the country at 39.1 per 100,000 in 2016.

The numbers released by the National Center for Health Statistics showed Ohio with 4,329 overdose deaths last year, up from the 4,050 reported by the Department of Health in August. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, August 30, 2017)

Ohio's overdose total was exceeded only by those of Pennsylvania, California and Florida.

In terms of the death rate, Ohio's 39.1 per 100,000 ranked behind only West Virginia, which had a rate of 52. New Hampshire was at 39.0, the District of Columbia at 38.8 and Pennsylvania at 37.9.

National totals showed a continued increase in deaths from heroin and other opioids, coupled with a dramatic surge in the number of deaths from synthetic opioids other than methadone. Those deaths totaled 3,105, or 1 per 100,000, in 2013, but rose to more than 19,000, or a rate of 6.2, in 2016.

### **House Republican Announces Plan To Crack Down Drug Dealers**

Drug dealers in Ohio could face much stiffer penalties under a proposal unveiled Thursday.

Rep. Scott Wiggam (R-Wooster) announced plans to introduce legislation that would boost trafficking charges for all Schedule I and Schedule II substances, with the exception of marijuana, to a minimum third-degree felony that carries a mandatory prison term.





Scott Wiggam

"No longer will drug dealers be able to operate in this state with little fear for the law," Rep. Wiggam said during a Statehouse news conference.

While the lawmaker praised the state's effort to combat the drug epidemic, including \$180 million in the two-year budget (HB 49), he said deterrence and accountability are missing, and hopes his bill will provide those two components to the fight.

Over the past four years, he said, overdose deaths have skyrocketed by 212%, while traffickers going to prison fell by 4% over that same time period.

"Ohio's law is too weak to deter drug traffickers from continuing to flood our streets with their products," he said. "Law enforcement officers have grown weary and demoralized from arresting the same criminals for drug trafficking only to see them released into our society with little more than a slap on the wrist."

Wayne County Prosecutor Dan Lutz voiced that frustration. He said a trafficker in his county was recently arrested after knowingly selling heroin mixed with fentanyl that led to a user's overdose death. Among the charges his office brought was involuntary manslaughter, which was later amended to reckless homicide.

Nonetheless, Mr. Lutz said the judge in the case was not pleased with the man being charged for the death of the user and told defense counsel to seek a bench trial, which they did. The individual was eventually found guilty of a single drug trafficking charge.

"Amazingly, he sentenced him to only probation," Mr. Lutz said, adding the man went right back to selling heroin.

The bill will not differentiate between those who are trafficking large amounts of drugs for profit and those who are selling small amounts to support a habit. Mr. Lutz said both are killing people by selling deadly drugs.

"We want to deter that," he said. "We want to make it too costly to do that."

Despite the bill treating addicts and large-scale traffickers the same, Rep. Wiggam said it does not take away from changes in law in recent years that have sought to treat those two groups of individuals differently in the criminal justice system.

"If you are an addict and you are selling, you are still engaged in selling," he said.



As for the impact on the state's prison population, Rep. Wiggam said he is unsure exactly how his legislation will impact the numbers. He added that the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction has yet to take a position on the bill.

But Mr. Lutz said when discussing the state's prison population, the cost-benefit analysis does not take into account the cost savings from not having people on the streets "wreaking havoc."

"Some people need to be locked up in prisons, and these are those people," he said.

Asked about the philosophy of some in the law enforcement community, including Attorney General Mike DeWine, who has repeatedly said the state cannot "arrest its way out" of the drug problem, Mr. Lutz said that attitude needs to change.

"We've got to prevent people from getting on this stuff in the first place," he said.

Mike Brem, president of the Ohio Task Force Commanders Association, likened the battle against opioids to the fight against crack.

"We feel this penalty increase will deter drug traffickers as it did the same way with the crack epidemic in the 80's," he said.

The legislation, dubbed the "Drug Trafficking Deterrence Act," has 18 co-sponsors, according to Rep. Wiggam.

The bill also has the backing of the Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association, the Buckeye State Sheriffs' Association, the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police and the OTFCA, Rep. Wiggam said.

### **'Significant Update' On Belmont County Ethane Cracker Slated For 2018**

A Thai petrochemical company now says it will have news on whether it plans to move forward with a proposed world-class ethane cracker plant sometime after the new year.

PTT Global, Gov. John Kasich and JobsOhio leaders in 2015 announced at a Statehouse press conference that the company - Thailand's largest petrochemical and refining company - was eyeing Belmont County for the \$6 billion plant. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 22, 2015)

A final investment decision was initially expected in 2016 but was then pushed to 2017. Last February, the company announced it would postpone a final decision until late 2017 but with January drawing near the lack of recent news has kept locals hoping for an announcement in suspense. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 17, 2017)

On Thursday, the company foreshadowed a "significant update" sometime early next year.



"PTTGC America will have a significant update that will demonstrate momentum for this project early in 2018," the company said. "We thank all Ohio and Belmont County partners for their support, and we wish you a happy holiday season."

The last news of the project came in October, when JobsOhio and PTT representatives met in Washington D.C. to ink a memorandum of understanding. In the MOU, the parties agreed to establish a community infrastructure development plan after a final investment decision has been reached. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, October 6, 2017)

Asked about the project's status, JobsOhio spokesman Matt Englehart said talks are ongoing.

"While a final investment decision has not yet been made, PTTGCA continues to collaborate with JobsOhio and local partners while investing time and resources to move this project forward," he said.

JobsOhio and the Kasich administration have touted the potential project as a boon for region that will draw in jobs and economic revitalization.

The company had committed to a \$100 million investment as it considers the move and earlier this year purchased 168 acres from FirstEnergy for the site to the tune of \$13.8 million.

Despite that, the potential development of similar plants in nearby West Virginia and Pennsylvania subsequent to PTT's 2015 announcement has sparked speculation from those not involved in the talks regarding the Belmont County project's future.

### **Federal Judge Dismisses Property Owners' Lawsuit Against Nexus Pipeline**

A federal district court judge has tossed out a lawsuit from dozens of Ohio property owners seeking to halt work on the Nexus Pipeline.

But it's hardly the only lawsuit targeting the construction of the \$2 billion, 255-mile natural gas pipeline that's yet to be resolved.

In May, 39 households - comprising 65 individuals - sued the company and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in an effort to halt the project.

The property owners said the company is improperly using eminent domain and argued FERC has failed to provide adequate information to homeowners regarding their options. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 15, 2017)

A magistrate in August issued a recommendation that the court deny plaintiffs' motion, opining that without formal FERC approval the court lacks adequate jurisdiction. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, August 8, 2017)



Weeks later, FERC approved the project, which Nexus argued in court filings made the lawsuit moot. Construction was then authorized to begin in October after several preconstruction conditions were met. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, October 13, 2017)

Judge John Adams agreed with the magistrate and his ruling this week from the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio adopts the magistrate's prior recommendation in its entirety.

Plaintiffs may now appeal to the U.S. Sixth Circuit court of Appeals. That's the same court that late last month voted 2-1 to stay construction on an eight-mile stretch of the pipeline through the city of Green. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, November 27, 2017)

Green is one of several localities - with others including Oberlin, Bowling Green and Medina - that have protested the project.

Green's lawsuit argues the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency granted the project a 401 certification improperly because the agency was not provided with practicable alternative routes with a smaller adverse environmental impact.

Sierra Club had also sued FERC over the pipeline's status, pressing D.C. circuit court to require FERC to rehear the case. But the group was forced to petition for the case to be dismissed after the landowner at the heart of the complaint agreed to sell land to Nexus for the project.

### **Groups Highlight Economic Impacts Of 'Dreamers' In Push To Restore DACA**

If Congress doesn't act to continue the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, Ohio could lose out on as much as \$12 million per year in tax revenue, according to a new report.

That total is how much the 9,000 Ohioans who are eligible for the program are currently paying in taxes, Policy Matters Ohio reported Thursday. All would be lost, however, if the protections for immigrants who are working and attending school are eliminated and those so-called Dreamers are deported.

If those same individuals stay in the state without DACA, many would likely take on lower-wage jobs, resulting in an estimated \$5 million tax revenue loss, the think tank said. About 4,000 Ohioans are actually participating in the program.

"Allowing DACA protections to expire would really hurt Ohio but passage of a Dream Act could boost out long-term economic output," Daniel Ortiz, outreach coordinator for Policy Matters Ohio, said in a conference call with reporters.

If Congress acts to reauthorize the program that was nixed by the Trump Administration in September, the state's gross domestic product could see a long-term annual impact of \$92 million, Mr. Ortiz said, citing Center for American Progress estimates.



Ohio's GDP could increase by more than \$300 million annually if half the eligible Dreamers earn college degrees to obtain permanent residence, he said.

"The Dream Act would put these young immigrants on a path to pay their taxes like everyone else and really could facilitate open participation in our communities," Mr. Ortiz said.

U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Cleveland) has said he's working with Republicans on a bill that would continue protections for the children of illegal immigrants, however those who are impacted by and supportive of the program say Congress can't move quick enough. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, December 20, 2017)

If a continuation or replacement isn't approved by March 5, as many as 1,200 Dreamers per day throughout the country will see their DACA authorizations expire, Mr. Ortiz said. Under the administration's plan, those who are currently part of the program will be sheltered until their permits expire or up to two years, whichever comes first.

Elvis Saldias, a DACA recipient who lives in Columbus, said his permit expires in about six months and he's not legally permitted to continue working as a property claims adjuster if his authorization lapses by even one day.

The recent Ohio State University graduate who came to America from Boliva more than 15 years ago said he would also no longer be able to continue mentoring the state's youngest immigrants attending Columbus Global Academy.

"I need to continue doing what I'm doing," he said, adding: "I can't imagine the urgency behind those (whose authorizations) have already expired."

Mr. Saldias told reporters the DACA application process, which includes an extensive background check, takes about five months from start to finish - another reason legislation needs passed as soon as possible.

"If they pass a bill today, it doesn't mean we're going to get our renewed DACA...in the mail," he said.

Lynn Tramonte, Director of America's Voice Ohio, called the DACA rescission a crisis, saying Congress can't wait until it's up against the March deadline to make a decision.

"The deadline was September," when the administration stalled the program, she said on the conference call. "People became ineligible suddenly overnight and were unable to apply. Those qualified for renewal were cut off. It's a crisis and...it has really impacts on everybody's lives."

Calls for quick action are growing louder for DACA to be Congress's next order of business now that it's finalized a tax overhaul and appears headed for a Friday vote on another stop-gap funding bill to prevent a government shutdown.



On Wednesday, Gov. John Kasich joined 10 other governors in asking Congress to quickly find a bipartisan solution to the issue. About 800 colleges and universities in the country, including a handful from Ohio, have also pressed for a resolution. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, December 20, 2017)

U.S. Sen. Portman (R-Terrace Park) has said there is an interest in reinstating DACA into permanent law, but it may come with some parameters, such as a workforce enforcement program.

The Federation for American Immigration Reform, which backed President Trump's longtime plan to end the program and leave its future up to Congress, has also said DACA's recession opens the door to create a larger immigration strategy that could include building a southern border wall and defunding sanctuary cities.

"Congress should seize this opportunity to come together and forge these much-needed reforms in our nation's immigration policy," the group said in a statement.

### **High Court Green Lights Tax Board To Take Up \$500K NASCAR Appeal**

The Board of Tax Appeals erred in dismissing an appeal filed by NASCAR, the Ohio Supreme Court ruled Thursday.

In a 6-1 per curiam decision, the court sided with the Florida-based company by finding that the BTA has jurisdiction to hear an appeal even when the notice is filed by an individual not licensed to practice law in Ohio on behalf of a taxpayer with authorization.

The decision hinged on a 1980 ruling in *Jemo Assoc., Inc. v. Lindley* in which the court found that any authorized agent may file an appeal on behalf of a taxpayer, even if doing so amounts to the unauthorized practice of law, the court's media arm reported.

After conducting an audit for tax years 2005 to 2010, the Department of Taxation in 2012 determined NASCAR failed to pay the Commercial Activity Tax for broadcasting its product in Ohio.

The company was assessed \$549,520, but filed a petition for reassessment with the tax commissioner, who affirmed the finding.

NASCAR then took its case to the BTA. But because its notice of appeal was filed by a Florida attorney not licensed to practice in Ohio, the BTA dismissed the case.

The high court, however, found that the BTA was wrong to do so.

"In this case, there appears to be no dispute that NASCAR authorized Bowen to file the notice of appeal to the BTA," the court wrote in its decision. "So under (state law) and *Jemo*, the notice of appeal filed by Bowen properly invoked the BTA's jurisdiction. Therefore, the BTA erred in dismissing NASCAR's appeal for lack of jurisdiction."



Justice Patrick Fischer was the lone dissenting voice in the case. He cited the 1997 high court case of *Sharon Village Ltd. V Licking Cty. Bd. of Revision*. In that case the court found that non-attorneys cannot file property value complaints on behalf of corporate taxpayers.

"I would hold that barring a statutory exception, when an appeal to the BTA is filed by a non-attorney, the non-attorney has engaged in the unauthorized practice of law and the BTA does not, therefore, have jurisdiction to hear the appeal," he wrote. "The nonbinding plurality opinion in *Jemo* does not conclude otherwise, and even if it could be read to do so, in light of *Sharon Village*, it has been superseded. For these reasons, it was neither unreasonable nor unlawful for the BTA to follow *Sharon Village* and its progeny and to not follow *Jemo*."

### **Poll Finds Democrats With Big Lead In Generic Congressional Ballots; Bacon Touts Fundraising; Scott Officially Enters District 12 Race...**

A new poll released jointly Thursday by Morning Consult and POLITICO has ominous signs for Republicans heading into 2018.

The poll found that Democrats hold a 10-point lead over Republicans on generic midterm ballots, with 44% respondents indicating they would vote for a Democrat in November compared with 34% who said the same about a Republican.

That is an increase from the prior week when 41% of respondents said they would vote for the Democratic candidate. Republicans polled at 36% last week.

The poll also recorded the highest "wrong direction" mark since mid-October, with 63% of respondents saying they believe the country is headed in the wrong direction.

Another finding was that Republicans may be on the wrong side of the net neutrality debate, with 49% saying that repeal was the wrong decision and just 21% saying it was the right decision.

One of the few bright spots for Republicans in the poll is that enthusiasm is higher on their side, with 64% saying they are motivated to vote in 2018, compared to 56% of Democrats.

**Fundraising Numbers:** Sen. Kevin Bacon (R-Minerva Park) took to Twitter Thursday to tout fundraising numbers for his bid to replace U.S. Rep. Pat Tiberi (R-Galena).

"Great fundraising results this week! We have \$120,000.00 in commitments and we begin collecting them Jan 2," he wrote.

**Scott Announcement:** On the Democratic of the 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Race, former Franklin County Sheriff Zach Scott formally announced his candidacy for the seat.



"I'm proud of the service and peace of mind I have provided to victims and their families over the past thirty years. Making communities safer by putting dangerous criminals behind bars while helping countless nonviolent offenders get their lives back on track hasn't just been my job - it's been my passion," he said.

"Now I'm going to take that same passion to Congress, where I will get laws passed that put our families and our communities first. Unfortunately, we have all seen too many Washington politicians who are more concerned with serving themselves than serving the public. All too often, Congress caters to powerful special interest groups while the pressing needs of everyday working families fall through the cracks."

**Opioid Crisis:** In light of a lawsuit filed against the pharmaceutical industry by Summit County and a report showing overdose deaths in Ohio increased by 24% in 2016, Rep. Tavia Galonski (D-Akron) called on drug manufacturers to take responsibility for their role in the opioid epidemic.

"Ohio's opioid epidemic is the result of a myriad of issues," she said. "The key players need to be held accountable and unfortunately, one of the largest is the pharmaceutical industry. By not being clear about the addictive properties of opioids, they have put Ohioans at risk for addiction. I believe this lawsuit is an excellent response to help hard working families needing a helping hand."

17 S. High St., Suite 630  
Columbus Ohio 43215  
Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: [gongwer@gongwer-oh.com](mailto:gongwer@gongwer-oh.com)

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger,  
Jon Reed, Staff Writers

Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

© 2017, Gongwer News Service, Inc. Reproduction of this publication in whole or in part without the express permission of the publisher is in violation of the federal Copyright Law (17 USC 101 et seq.) as is retransmission by facsimile or any other electronic means, including electronic mail.



**From:** The Buckeye Institute  
**Sent:** Friday, December 22, 2017 10:20 AM  
**To:** Best, Carolyn  
**Subject:** Buckeye's Rea Hederman: Ohio's Employment Report was Naughty and Nice

### Unsubscribe

It appears that you have subscribed to commercial messages from this sender. To stop receiving such messages from this sender, please [unsubscribe](#)



## THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

Contact: Lisa Gates, Vice President of Comms

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

December 22, 2017

(614) 224-3255 or [Lisa@BuckeyeInstitute.org](mailto:Lisa@BuckeyeInstitute.org)

### **Buckeye's Rea Hederman: Ohio's Employment Report was Naughty and Nice**

**Columbus, OH** - Rea S. Hederman Jr., executive director of the Economic Research Center at **The Buckeye Institute** and vice president of policy, commented on newly released unemployment data from the **Ohio Department of Job and Family Services**.

"In the last report of the year, the Ohio employment report was naughty and nice. The nice part was the unemployment rate falling three-tenths to 4.8 percent, a stable decline even as labor force participation grew. This indicates that the economy is growing fast enough to provide employment opportunities to willing workers.



"The naughty part is the payroll survey reported a decline of 3,300 private-sector jobs. The primary culprit was a sharp decline in retail trade (-6,400) as commerce continues to move online, which sparked an increase in transportation jobs (2,300).

"The numbers: The unemployment rate in Ohio fell to 4.8 percent from 5.1 percent. This is still greater than the national average of 4.1 percent. Ohioans are slightly more likely to be in the labor force (62.8 percent) than the national average (62.7 percent). The total number of job opportunities declined by 5,600 with 3,300 losses in the aviate sector. Manufacturing added jobs (2,500), while the service sector declined (5,600)."

###

*Founded in 1989, The Buckeye Institute is an independent research and educational institution - a think tank - whose mission is to advance free-market public policy in the states.*

*The Buckeye Institute is a non-partisan, non-profit, and tax-exempt organization, as defined by section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code. As such, it relies on support from individuals, corporations, and foundations that share a commitment to individual liberty, free enterprise, personal responsibility, and limited government. The Buckeye Institute does not seek or accept government funding.*



= A

The Buckeye Institute, 88 East Broad Street,  
Suite 1120, Columbus, OH 43215

[SafeUnsubscribe™ carolyn.best@ohiohouse.gov](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

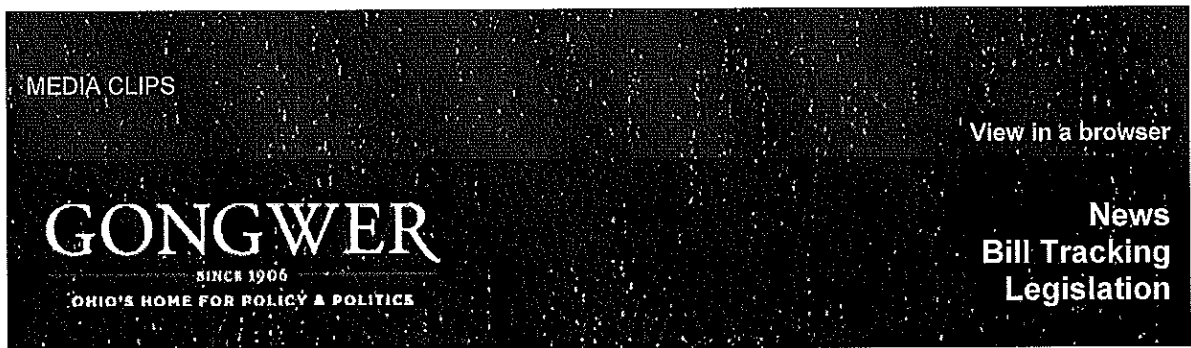
Sent by [info@buckeyeinstitute.org](mailto:info@buckeyeinstitute.org)



**From:** Gongwer News Service  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2018 8:39 AM  
**To:** Best, Carolyn  
**Subject:** Ohio Media Clips, Wednesday, January 3

## Unsubscribe

It appears that you have subscribed to commercial messages from this sender. To stop receiving such messages from this sender, please unsubscribe.



## NEWS

Lawmakers push right-to-work for 2020 ballot (Akron Beacon Journal, 1/3/2018)

Democrat in Ohio governor's race picks running mate: (Associated Press, 1/3/2018)

Ohioans can apply for amnesty to settle unreported tax debts: (Associated Press, 1/3/2018)

Ohio's child support system: Everyone agrees it's broken. But a fix has taken 25 years – and counting. (Cincinnati Enquirer, 1/3/2018)



**Ohio's move to toss inactive voters from rolls goes to court (Cincinnati Enquirer, 1/3/2018)**

**Joe Schiavoni picks state board of education member as running mate  
(Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/3/2018)**

**Medical device tax is back; industry seeks repeal (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/3/2018)**

**19-year-old takes office as city council member in eastern Ohio  
(Columbus Dispatch, 1/3/2018)**

**Governor's race Q and A | Mary Taylor (Columbus Dispatch, 1/3/2018)**

**Joe Schiavoni picks Stephanie Dodd as running mate (Columbus Dispatch, 1/3/2018)**

**Ohio Supreme Court wants state's execution-drug records (Columbus Dispatch, 1/3/2018)**

**From pizza delivery robots, to boozy ice cream, a look at new Ohio laws (Dayton Daily News, 1/3/2018)**

**On Twitter, President Trump comes out swinging in 2018 (Dayton Daily News, 1/3/2018)**

**2018 could be a busy ballot year in Ohio (Toledo Blade, 1/3/2018)**

## EDITORIALS

**Editorial: 2012 effort a dog of a law (Canton Repository, 1/3/2018)**

**Ohio lawmakers should keep the seriously mentally ill off Death Row: editorial (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/3/2018)**



**Senators working to turn tide of drug epidemic (Toledo Blade, 1/3/2018)**

This message is provided to you as part of your subscription to Gongwer News Service.

Please send all correspondence to [gongwer@gongwer-oh.com](mailto:gongwer@gongwer-oh.com). This mailbox is not regularly monitored.

[View as a Web Page](#)

Copyright 2018, Gongwer News Service/Ohio  
17 S. High St., Suite 630, Columbus OH 43215

All Rights Reserved. This message and any attachments may not be forwarded or reproduced without express permission from Gongwer News Service.

[unsubscribe](#)



**From:** Rep65  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2018 11:01 AM  
**To:** Blessing, Heather  
**CC:** Willamowski, Sheila; Best, Carolyn; Lenzo, Mike; Basie, Margaret  
**Subject:** FW: \*\*ON DEADLINE\*\* cosponsor request Right-to-Work HJRs/seeking comment

Heather,

Thank you for requesting this email. Margaret in Rep. Riedel's office did not receive a call (just this email) from reporter Keith Arnold.

## Joe Michalowski

Legislative Aide

State Representative John Becker | Ohio House District 65

77 S. High Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor | Columbus, OH 43215-6108

Office: (614) 466-8134 | [joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov)

---

**From:** Keith Arnold [mailto:karnold@thedailyreporteronline.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 03, 2018 10:01 AM  
**To:** Swedberg, Emily <Emily.Swedberg@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep82 <Rep82@ohiohouse.gov>  
**Cc:** Rep65 <Rep65@ohiohouse.gov>  
**Subject:** \*\*ON DEADLINE\*\* cosponsor request Right-to-Work HJRs/seeking comment

Good morning. Please provide a copy of any cosponsor request the representatives may have sent to their peers on the series of right-to-work proposals introduced in the House.

Also, I'm looking for comment on the representatives' rationale to throw this series of issues back to the voters rather than legislate the changes themselves.

I see Rep. Riedel is on the record saying, " ... we are allowing the citizens of Ohio to have the final say," but that rings of political expedience — voters elected each of the representatives to make the hard decisions for them.

Please elaborate.

I must file by 11:30 a.m. today. Email responses are acceptable as are those by phone at the no. below.

Thanks in advance for any assistance.



Best,

**Keith Arnold**

***Staff Writer***

The Daily Reporter

[www.thedailyreporteronline.com](http://www.thedailyreporteronline.com)

614/228-6397



**From:** Blessing, Heather  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2018 11:36 AM  
**To:** Best, Carolyn; Miller, Brad  
**CC:** Becker, John; Michalowski, Joe  
**Subject:** column mistake in Enquirer  
**Attachments:** A\_Main.pdf

If you go to the "E Edition" of the Enquirer, which is the actual print layout of the hard copy paper, and look at section A-15, you will see the error which shows that Rep. Becker's name and picture are affixed next to an anti-right to work column that Bridget Kelly supposedly wrote. See attached PDF.

\*\*\*

Heather N. Blessing, Esq.  
Deputy Legal Counsel / Deputy Budget Director  
Office of Speaker Clifford A. Rosenberger  
Ohio House of Representatives | 77 S. High Street Columbus, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Ohio 43215  
Office: 614.466.9194 | Mobile: 614.352.5819 | [Heather.Blessing@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Heather.Blessing@ohiohouse.gov)



## State lawmakers should avoid any right-to-work proposal like the plague

While everyone was getting into the holiday spirit of giving, a colleague of mine in the Ohio House was circulating six dangerous and divisive amendments to our Constitution — amendments that would only take away from working families.

These radical changes to the Ohio Constitution and anti-family ideas are corroded with the fingerprints of the billionaire Koch brothers and anti-American propaganda organizations Americans for Prosperity and the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). These special interest groups are driven by greed and power. It makes absolutely no sense that people with that much money would spend so much time, effort and resources trying to deprive working people of food on their table, roofs over their heads, and day-to-day dignity and security.

The six proposed amendments to the Ohio Constitution are all related to a nefarious and deceptive concept known as “right to work.” Time and time again, we’ve seen that right-to-work experiment leads to lower wages, more injuries and deaths in the workplace, and employees are stripped of their voice and rights. But failed experiments don’t seem to get in the way of destructive ideology.

The bottom line: Lawmakers elected by Ohio citizens should not sign on to an agenda directed by out-of-state special interests who don’t care about the people we are elected to serve.

We’ve been down this road before. In 2011, the out-of-state interests pushed lawmakers to ramrod Senate Bill 5 through the process to deny employees of their collective bargaining rights. We successfully fought back by collecting 1.3 million signatures, amassing 17,000 volunteers and vetoing SB 5 by a 62-38 percent margin. In 2011, SB 5 was unfair, unsafe and hurt us all. Today is no different.

Prior to being elected to the Ohio House, I worked for the United Food and Commercial Workers Union. We took to the streets because it wasn’t just nurses, firefighters, police officers, teachers and other public service employees who would have been negatively impacted by that law; it was our neighbors and our state.

I have spent a tremendous amount of time knocking on doors and talking directly to Ohioans about our future.

What people around the state have asked for are better wages, improved workplace safety, increased benefits like health care and pensions, and the recognition that hard work should be respected and dignified.

The sponsor of these amendments stands alone on his proposals. The only ones backing him are billionaires like the Koch brothers.

The proposed amendments would put right to work into the Ohio Constitution for private- and public-sector employees. They would repeal prevailing wage laws and project labor agreements that ensure top-level talent protect our tax dollars. And they would put the state where it doesn’t belong: at the table where employers and employees meet to make decisions that are best for everyone involved in the company.

Lawmakers should be speaking directly with working people and families, and telling the Koch brothers, Americans for Prosperity and ALEC to stay out of Ohio and keep their mitts off of the Ohio Constitution that protects our families.

State lawmakers should avoid these dangerous and divisive proposals like the plague. Instead, we should be embarking, together, on a joint effort to raise wages, increase safety, ensure hardworking people are rewarded with the security these salaries and benefits bring.

*Republican John Becker is a thirdterm state representative for Ohio’s 65th District in Clermont County.*



### Your Turn

John Becker Guest columnist



1/3/2018

A: Main

No one has asked me to introduce or support any one of the constitutional amendments being proposed.

---

Wednesday, 01/03/2018 Pag.A15

Copyright © 2018, The Enquirer. All rights reserved. Use of this site signifies your agreement to the [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#), updated March 2007. 1/3/2018



**From:** Miller, Brad  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2018 11:41 AM  
**To:** Blessing, Heather; Best, Carolyn  
**CC:** Becker, John; Michalowski, Joe  
**Subject:** RE: column mistake in Enquirer

I can reach out to the Enquirer editorial board staff, inform them of the error and seek correction.

---

**From:** Blessing, Heather  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 03, 2018 11:36 AM  
**To:** Best, Carolyn <Carolyn.Best@ohiohouse.gov>; Miller, Brad <Brad.Miller@ohiohouse.gov>  
**Cc:** Becker, John <John.Becker@ohiohouse.gov>; Michalowski, Joe <Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov>  
**Subject:** column mistake in Enquirer

If you go to the "E Edition" of the Enquirer, which is the actual print layout of the hard copy paper, and look at section A-15, you will see the error which shows that Rep. Becker's name and picture are affixed next to an anti-right to work column that Bridget Kelly supposedly wrote. See attached PDF.

\*\*\*

Heather N. Blessing, Esq.  
Deputy Legal Counsel / Deputy Budget Director  
Office of Speaker Clifford A. Rosenberger  
Ohio House of Representatives | 77 S. High Street Columbus, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Ohio 43215  
Office: 614.466.9194 | Mobile: 614.352.5819 | [Heather.Blessing@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Heather.Blessing@ohiohouse.gov)



**From:** Blessing, Heather  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2018 11:41 AM  
**To:** Miller, Brad; Best, Carolyn  
**CC:** Becker, John; Michalowski, Joe  
**Subject:** RE: column mistake in Enquirer

I defer to the member's office, but I believe that would be an advisable course of action.

\*\*\*

Heather N. Blessing, Esq.  
Deputy Legal Counsel / Deputy Budget Director  
Office of Speaker Clifford A. Rosenberger  
Ohio House of Representatives | 77 S. High Street Columbus, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Ohio 43215  
Office: 614.466.9194 | Mobile: 614.352.5819 | [Heather.Blessing@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Heather.Blessing@ohiohouse.gov)

---

**From:** Miller, Brad  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 03, 2018 11:41 AM  
**To:** Blessing, Heather <[Heather.Blessing@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Heather.Blessing@ohiohouse.gov)>; Best, Carolyn <[Carolyn.Best@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Carolyn.Best@ohiohouse.gov)>  
**Cc:** Becker, John <[John.Becker@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:John.Becker@ohiohouse.gov)>; Michalowski, Joe <[Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: column mistake in Enquirer

I can reach out to the Enquirer editorial board staff, inform them of the error and seek correction.

---

**From:** Blessing, Heather  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 03, 2018 11:36 AM  
**To:** Best, Carolyn <[Carolyn.Best@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Carolyn.Best@ohiohouse.gov)>; Miller, Brad <[Brad.Miller@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Brad.Miller@ohiohouse.gov)>  
**Cc:** Becker, John <[John.Becker@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:John.Becker@ohiohouse.gov)>; Michalowski, Joe <[Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov)>  
**Subject:** column mistake in Enquirer

If you go to the "E Edition" of the Enquirer, which is the actual print layout of the hard copy paper, and look at section A-15, you will see the error which shows that Rep. Becker's name and picture are affixed next to an anti-right to work column that Bridget Kelly supposedly wrote. See attached PDF.

\*\*\*

Heather N. Blessing, Esq.  
Deputy Legal Counsel / Deputy Budget Director  
Office of Speaker Clifford A. Rosenberger  
Ohio House of Representatives | 77 S. High Street Columbus, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Ohio 43215



Office: 614.466.9194 | Mobile: 614.352.5819 | [Heather.Blessing@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Heather.Blessing@ohiohouse.gov)



**From:** The Buckeye Institute

**Sent:** Thursday, December 7, 2017 5:44 PM

**To:** Best, Carolyn

**Subject:** Proposed Changes to Ohio's Cash Bail Policy are First Step to Fixing Broken System

### Unsubscribe

It appears that you have subscribed to commercial messages from this sender. To stop receiving such messages from this sender, please [unsubscribe](#)



## THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

= A

Contact: Lisa Gates, Vice President of Comms

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

December 7, 2017

(614) 224-3255 or [Lisa@BuckeyeInstitute.org](mailto:Lisa@BuckeyeInstitute.org)

= A

### **Proposed Changes to Ohio's Cash Bail Policy are First Step to Fixing Broken System**

**Columbus, OH -- The Buckeye Institute** issued the following statement upon the introduction of House Bill 439, sponsored by State Representative Jonathan Dever (R-28), which would move Ohio away from an arbitrary cash bail system and give judges more flexibility and more information to detain dangerous defendants before trial.

"Under Ohio's current bail system, pretrial release is determined by the amount of money a person has access to rather than the actual threat the person poses to the community. And the policies proposed today are the first step in reforming a broken system," said **Daniel J. Dew**, a legal fellow with The Buckeye Institute's **Legal Center**. "Ohio's cash bail system



leads to the absurd results where a **drunken jaywalker** spends time in jail while a **child rapist** is released on bond only to murder the child set to testify against him."

In a forthcoming Buckeye Institute report, *"Money Bail": Making Ohio a More Dangerous Place to Live*, scheduled to be released next week, Dew looks at Ohio's failing cash bail system and the need to replace it with verified risk-assessment tools that provide a fairer, more efficient way to keep Ohio's communities safe and secure.

"In our report, we show that reliance on cash bail hurts the poor at the expense of taxpayers and gives dangerous defendants the opportunity to buy their way out of jail," Dew said. "Giving judges more information to make pretrial release decisions and giving them more tools to detain dangerous defendants will make Ohio communities safer."

###

*Founded in 1989, The Buckeye Institute is an independent research and educational institution - a think tank - whose mission is to advance free-market public policy in the states.*

*The Buckeye Institute is a non-partisan, non-profit, and tax-exempt organization, as defined by section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code. As such, it relies on support from individuals, corporations, and foundations that share a commitment to individual liberty, free enterprise, personal responsibility, and limited government. The Buckeye Institute does not seek or accept government funding.*



The Buckeye Institute, 88 East Broad Street,  
Suite 1120, Columbus, OH 43215

SafeUnsubscribe™ [carolyn.best@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:carolyn.best@ohiohouse.gov)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by [info@buckeyeinstitute.org](mailto:info@buckeyeinstitute.org)



**From:** Michalowski, Joe  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2018 11:45 AM  
**To:** Blessing, Heather; Miller, Brad; Best, Carolyn  
**CC:** Becker, John  
**Subject:** Re: column mistake in Enquirer

Yes, please reach out to the Enquirer as described. Thanks!

Joe Michalowski  
Legislative Aide  
State Representative John Becker | Ohio House District 65  
77 S. High Street, 12th Floor | Columbus, OH 43215-6108  
Office: (614) 466-8134 | [joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:joe.michalowski@ohiohouse.gov)

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

**From:** "Blessing, Heather" <[Heather.Blessing@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Heather.Blessing@ohiohouse.gov)>  
**Date:** 1/3/18 11:41 AM (GMT-05:00)  
**To:** "Miller, Brad" <[Brad.Miller@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Brad.Miller@ohiohouse.gov)>, "Best, Carolyn" <[Carolyn.Best@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Carolyn.Best@ohiohouse.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Becker, John" <[John.Becker@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:John.Becker@ohiohouse.gov)>, "Michalowski, Joe" <[Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: column mistake in Enquirer

I defer to the member's office, but I believe that would be an advisable course of action.

\*\*\*

Heather N. Blessing, Esq.  
Deputy Legal Counsel / Deputy Budget Director  
Office of Speaker Clifford A. Rosenberger  
Ohio House of Representatives | 77 S. High Street Columbus, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Ohio 43215  
Office: 614.466.9194 | Mobile: 614.352.5819 | [Heather.Blessing@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Heather.Blessing@ohiohouse.gov)

**From:** Miller, Brad  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 03, 2018 11:41 AM  
**To:** Blessing, Heather <[Heather.Blessing@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Heather.Blessing@ohiohouse.gov)>; Best, Carolyn <[Carolyn.Best@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Carolyn.Best@ohiohouse.gov)>  
**Cc:** Becker, John <[John.Becker@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:John.Becker@ohiohouse.gov)>; Michalowski, Joe



<Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov>

**Subject:** RE: column mistake in Enquirer

I can reach out to the Enquirer editorial board staff, inform them of the error and seek correction.

---

**From:** Blessing, Heather

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 03, 2018 11:36 AM

**To:** Best, Carolyn <Carolyn.Best@ohiohouse.gov>; Miller, Brad  
<Brad.Miller@ohiohouse.gov>

**Cc:** Becker, John <John.Becker@ohiohouse.gov>; Michalowski, Joe  
<Joe.Michalowski@ohiohouse.gov>

**Subject:** column mistake in Enquirer

If you go to the "E Edition" of the Enquirer, which is the actual print layout of the hard copy paper, and look at section A-15, you will see the error which shows that Rep. Becker's name and picture are affixed next to an anti-right to work column that Bridget Kelly supposedly wrote. See attached PDF.

\*\*\*

Heather N. Blessing, Esq.

Deputy Legal Counsel / Deputy Budget Director

Office of Speaker Clifford A. Rosenberger

Ohio House of Representatives | 77 S. High Street Columbus, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Ohio 43215

Office: 614.466.9194 | Mobile: 614.352.5819 | [Heather.Blessing@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Heather.Blessing@ohiohouse.gov)



**From:** The Buckeye Institute

**Sent:** Monday, January 8, 2018 7:32 AM

**To:** Best, Carolyn

**Subject:** Ohio is Literally Moving in the Wrong Direction! By Greg R. Lawson

Unsubscribe

It appears that you have subscribed to commercial messages from this sender. To stop receiving such messages from this sender, please [unsubscribe](#)



# THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE

---

## Ohio is Literally Moving in the Wrong Direction!

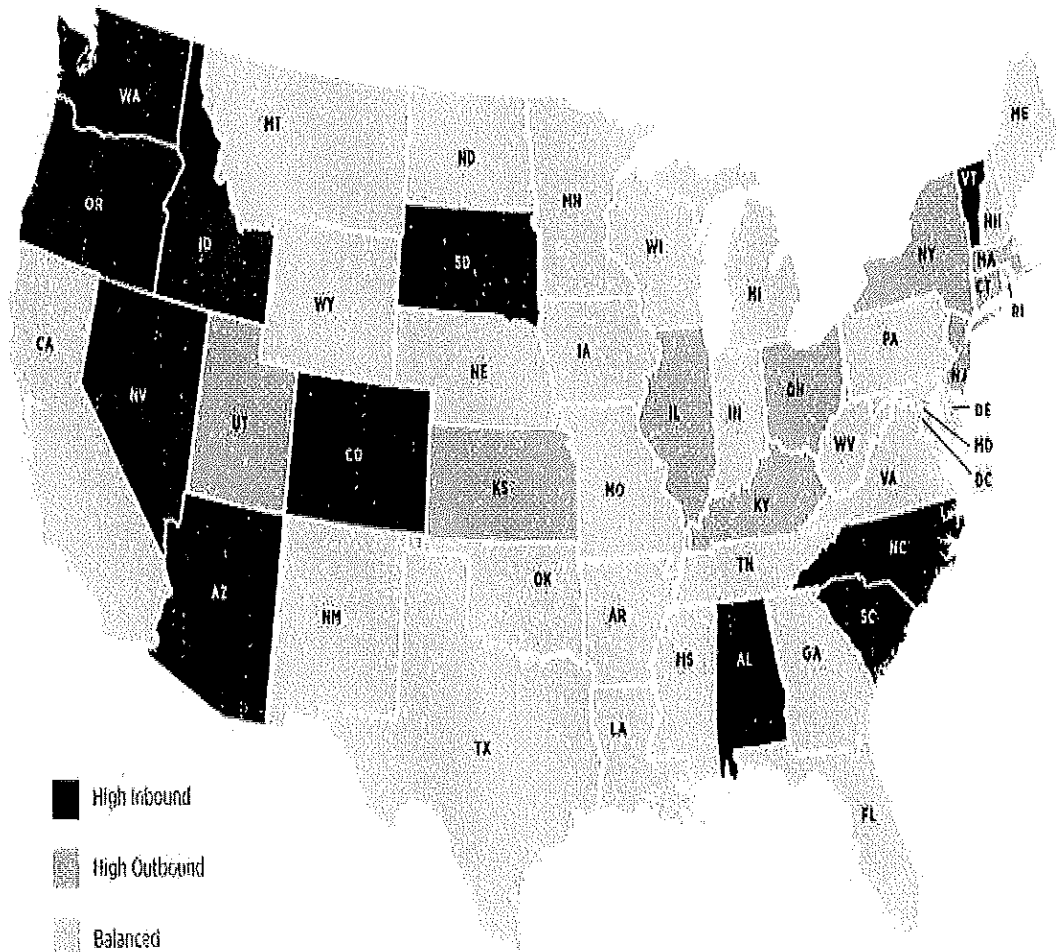
**By Greg R. Lawson**  
**January 8, 2018**

According to United Van Lines **2017 National Movers Study**, Ohio ranked number 7 nationally for the most out of state moves. And an **Atlas** report shows that for the 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive year more people are moving out of Ohio than into Ohio.

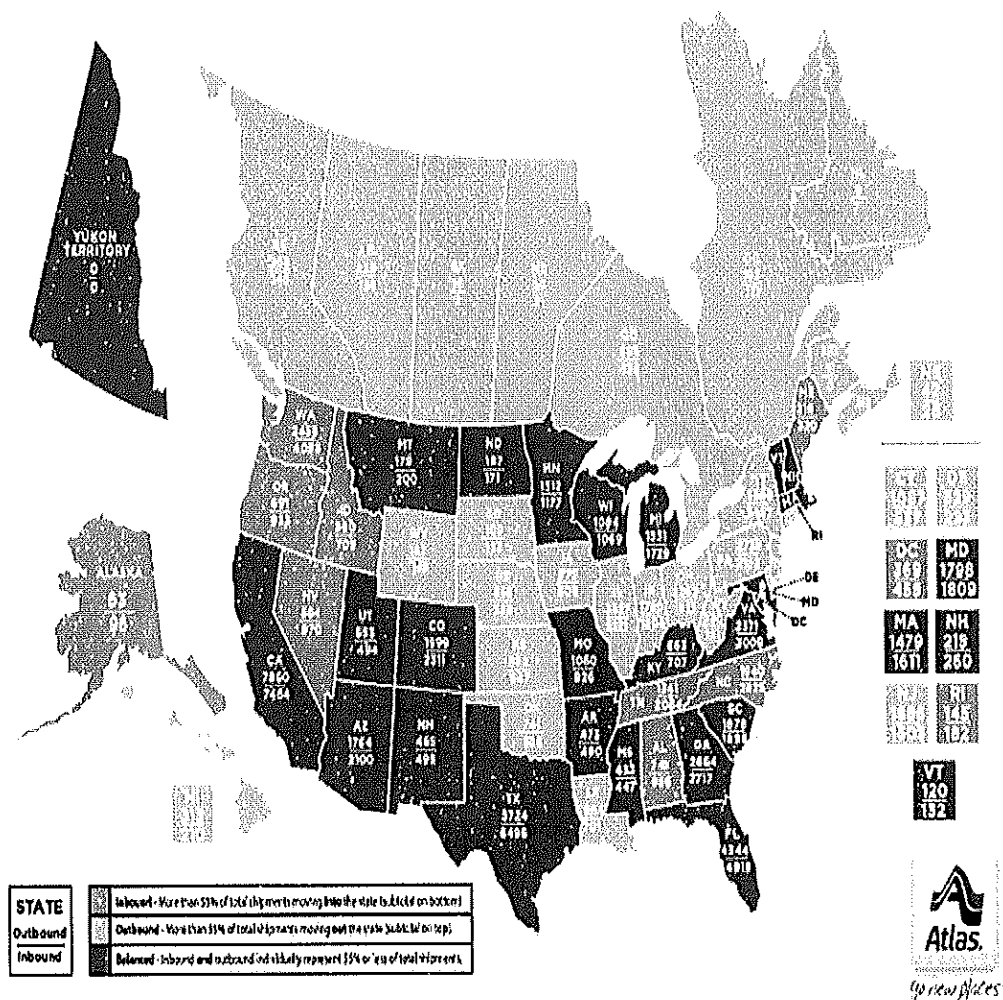
Ohio is literally moving in the wrong direction!



# United Van Lines 2017 Movers Study







While we have come to expect this reality, it is a trend Ohio should not just accept and illustrates why Ohio needs better policies that will grow the economy and increase jobs.

According to economist and UCLA professor Michael Stoll,

"This year's data reflects longer-term trends of movement to the western and southern states, especially to those where housing costs are relatively lower, climates are more temperate, and **job growth has been at or above the national average**, among other factors."



This should not be surprising. Ohio's job growth has typically been below the national average in both good and bad times for much of the past half century. While the state has certainly climbed out of the deep job loss pit it fell into during the Great Recession, it still has yet to fully recover.

While Ohio's policymakers have made commendable efforts to improve the job climate through tax and regulatory reform, there is much work that remains, and there are multiple areas where policymakers should focus their attention in an effort to improve Ohio business climate.

Embracing reforms in each of these areas will create a better environment for job growth.

First, Ohio remains a state without full worker freedom unlike **4 of our 5 neighbors** (Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, and West Virginia).

Second, Ohio remains home to one of the most complicated **local government structures** of any state while having the single worst local tax in America -- **the municipal income tax**. These complexities make it difficult for smaller businesses to grow, the kind of growth that leads to more jobs for Ohioans.

Finally, Ohio needs to reduce the ridiculous burden of over the top **occupational licensing** while making a commitment to stop adding additional licenses to new jobs. Our recent report, *Still Forbidden to Succeed: The Negative Effects of Occupational Licensing on Ohio's Workforce*, highlights the dire impact such licensing has lower-income and minority Ohioans as well as on the ability of workers, in general, to move for new job opportunities.

With reforms in these three key areas, we can grow our economy, increase job creation, and turn the moving vans around and bring people back to Ohio.

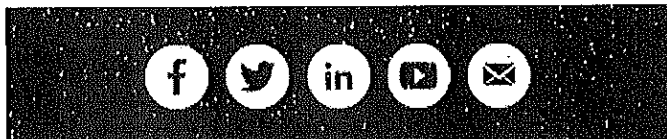
*Greg R. Lawson is the research fellow at The Buckeye Institute.*

###

*Founded in 1989, The Buckeye Institute is an independent research and educational institution - a think tank - whose mission is to advance free-market public policy in the states.*



*The Buckeye Institute is a non-partisan, non-profit, and tax-exempt organization, as defined by section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code. As such, it relies on support from individuals, corporations, and foundations that share a commitment to individual liberty, free enterprise, personal responsibility, and limited government. The Buckeye Institute does not seek or accept government funding.*



The Buckeye Institute, 88 East Broad Street,  
Suite 1120, Columbus, OH 43215

[SafeUnsubscribe™ carolyn.best@ohiohouse.gov](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

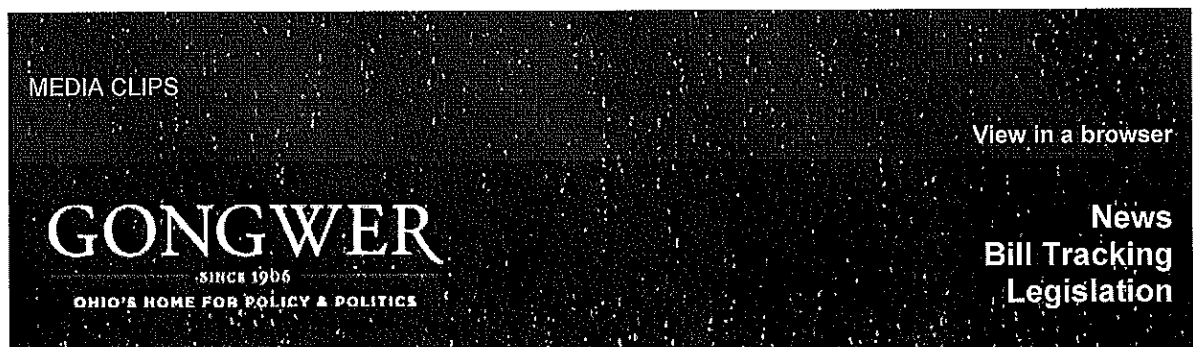
Sent by [info@buckeyeinstitute.org](mailto:info@buckeyeinstitute.org)



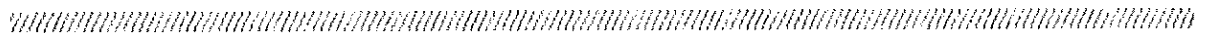
**From:** Gongwer News Service  
**Sent:** Monday, January 8, 2018 8:33 AM  
**To:** Best, Carolyn  
**Subject:** Ohio Media Clips, Monday, January 8

## Unsubscribe

It appears that you have subscribed to commercial messages from this sender. To stop receiving such messages from this sender, please unsubscribe



## NEWS



**Governor names second Ohio poet laureate (Associated Press, 1/8/2018)**

**Proposed Ohio law would prevent forced nurse overtime (Associated Press, 1/8/2018)**

**Mandel's shocking exit has Republicans concerned (Cincinnati Enquirer, 1/8/2018)**

**Ohio's next governor: sorting out 9 candidates (Cincinnati Enquirer, 1/8/2018)**



**Social media reactions to Mandel's decision to exit U.S. Senate race (Cincinnati Enquirer, 1/8/2018)**

**Jeff Johnson, former Cleveland councilman, plans to challenge Ohio Sen. Sandra Williams in May primary (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/8/2018)**

**Josh Mandel drops out of the Senate race (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/8/2018)**

**Marijuana legal in most states, but in few states won by Donald Trump (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/8/2018)**

**Ohio still has a political gender gap, but not in the race for governor: A Woman's Place (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/8/2018)**

**ECOT case prompts calls for better rules to verify student enrollment (Columbus Dispatch, 1/8/2018)**

**Grandparents raising kids of addicts struggle with little aid (Columbus Dispatch, 1/8/2018)**

**Josh Mandel quitting US Senate challenge of Sherrod Brown seat (Columbus Dispatch, 1/8/2018)**

**Ohio purge of voter rolls gets Supreme Court scrutiny this week (Columbus Dispatch, 1/8/2018)**

**Ohio school districts anxious for refunds from ECOT's \$60 million repayment (Columbus Dispatch, 1/8/2018)**

**Taylor stays firm with governor run; Renacci reportedly considering bid for Senate (Columbus Dispatch, 1/8/2018)**

**Top Ohio House GOP aide leaving for campaign roles (Columbus Dispatch, 1/8/2018)**

**Will 2018 be the political year of the woman? (Columbus Dispatch, 1/8/2018)**



**Editorial: One vote does count: See Va. and Ohio (Columbus Dispatch, 1/8/2018)**



## Opioid aid for Ohio's towns (Toledo Blade, 1/8/2018)

This message is provided to you as part of your subscription to Gongwer News Service.

Please send all correspondence to [gongwer@gongwer-oh.com](mailto:gongwer@gongwer-oh.com). This mailbox is not regularly monitored.

[View as a Web Page](#)

Copyright 2018, Gongwer News Service/Ohio  
17 S. High St., Suite 630, Columbus OH 43215

All Rights Reserved. This message and any attachments may not be forwarded or reproduced without express permission from Gongwer News Service.

[unsubscribe](#)



**From:** Westlake, Libby  
**Sent:** Monday, January 8, 2018 9:39 AM  
**To:** Westlake, Libby  
**Subject:** E-Clips for 1/8/2018

## HOUSE E-CLIPS

1/8/2018



### **OHIO BANS SALE OF DOZENS OF INVASIVE PLANTS UNDER NEW RULES**

Ohio has banned the sale of more than three dozen invasive plant species under new rules that took effect Sunday.

### **PROPOSED OHIO LAW WOULD PREVENT FORCED NURSE OVERTIME**

A shortage of nurses in Ohio has prompted a state lawmaker to propose a law that would ban hospitals from requiring nurses to work overtime.



### **JOSH MANDEL QUITTING US SENATE CHALLENGE OF SHERROD BROWN SEAT**

Because of an unspecified health issue involving his wife, Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel is dropping out of the race to challenge Democratic U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown.

### **KASICH SETS PRIMARY FOR TIBERI SEAT FOR MAY 8; SPECIAL ELECTION ON AUG. 7**

Ohio Gov. John Kasich has set the elections in which voters will determine who will be nominated — and ultimately serve — the remainder of the term of resigning U.S. Rep. Pat Tiberi.

### **OHIO GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS MIGHT BE SOFTENED FOR CLASSES OF 2019 AND 2020**

The Ohio Board of Education is expected to urge lawmakers next week to back off tougher new requirements to graduate high school for at least another two years.

### **TAYLOR STAYS FIRM WITH GOVERNOR RUN; RENACCI REPORTEDLY CONSIDERING BID FOR SENATE**

Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor plans to stay the course with her run for the Republican gubernatorial nomination and will not seek to replace Josh Mandel in the GOP quest to unseat Democratic Sen. Sherrod Brown this year.



### **38 SPECIES OF INVASIVE PLANTS NOW ILLEGAL TO SELL IN OHIO**

Ohio is taking a swing at nature's bullies.

### **ECOT CASE PROMPTS CALLS FOR BETTER RULES TO VERIFY STUDENT**

#### **ENROLLMENT**

As the Ohio Supreme Court prepares to hear arguments in ECOT's lawsuit regarding repayments for unverified students, some legislators say it's time for more clarity.

### **TOP OHIO HOUSE GOP AIDE LEAVING FOR CAMPAIGN ROLES**

After 15 years in the Ohio House, having worked his way up from low-level page to chief of staff for the speaker, Mike Dittoe is stepping down.

### **OHIO PURGE OF VOTER ROLLS GETS SUPREME COURT SCRUTINY THIS WEEK**

To the state of Ohio, it is nothing more than a housekeeping device to keep the voting rolls up to date.

### **OHIO SCHOOL DISTRICTS ANXIOUS FOR REFUNDS FROM ECOT'S \$60 MILLION**

#### **REPAYMENT**

The checks are not yet in the mail, but they will be coming.

### **WILL 2018 BE THE YEAR OF THE WOMAN? SIGNS POINT TO YES**

On any given year, EMILY'S List — the Democratic organization that recruits pro-choice women to run for office — draws the interest of a few hundred women thinking of running for office.

### **EDITORIAL: LEGISLATURE FAILED OHIO CONSUMERS**

The Ohio legislature's blinkered priorities and pandering to industry interests is made plain in its failure to end the abusive practices of "submetering," which forces more than 28,000 households in central Ohio alone to pay heftier electricity and water bills.

## **Dayton Daily News**

[www.daytondailynews.com](http://www.daytondailynews.com)

### **GROUP PUSHING BALLOT MEASURE TO INCREASE REGULATION OF PUPPY MILLS**

Following a dramatic showdown between animal rights groups and agriculture heavy weights seven years ago, Ohio struck a deal to bring about sweeping reforms for how farm animals are handled.

### **ARE YOU OWED MONEY? OHIO'S UNCLAIMED FUND HITS \$2.6 BILLION**

Now that the holidays are over and the credit card bills are due, it might be a good time to check to see if the state of Ohio is hanging onto any money you forgot about.

### **ARE OHIO'S LICENSING RULES OUT OF WHACK?**

It takes nearly a year of training to become a licensed barber in Ohio, but one can become an advanced emergency medical technician — with the ability to administer narcotics — in less than six weeks.

## **THE PLAIN DEALER**



### **JOSH MANDEL DROPS OUT OF THE SENATE RACE**

Republican Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel announced Friday his withdrawal from the race for U.S. Senate.

### **JEFF JOHNSON, FORMER CLEVELAND COUNCILMAN, PLANS TO CHALLENGE OHIO SEN. SANDRA WILLIAMS IN MAY PRIMARY**

Jeff Johnson, just days after leaving office as a Cleveland council member following an unsuccessful run for mayor, says he plans to challenge Ohio Sen. Sandra Williams in the May Democratic primary.

### **WHAT ATTRIBUTES SHOULD A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE HAVE? IT'S NOT JUST THE "THREE R'S" ANYMORE**

What should a high school graduate look like in Ohio?

### **OHIO STILL HAS A POLITICAL GENDER GAP, BUT NOT IN THE RACE FOR GOVERNOR: A WOMAN'S PLACE**

Betty Sutton knows what it's like to be the only female politician in a room full of men.

### **VOTING IN OHIO MATTERS - LOOK AT THE 141 TIES AND ONE-VOTE RACES IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS: THOMAS SUDDER**

Ohio's neighboring state once-removed, Virginia, showed last week why every vote counts in American elections.

## **THE ENQUIRER**

### **JOSH MANDEL'S SHOCKING EXIT HAS REPUBLICANS CONCERNED. AND THEY DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME TO REPLACE HIM.**

Minutes after Republican U.S. Senate candidate Josh Mandel quit the race Friday afternoon, reality set in for Republicans.

## **THE BLADE**

*One of America's Great Newspapers*

### **REPUBLICAN LAWMAKERS PUSH TO MAKE OHIO "RIGHT TO WORK"**

More than six years after voters resoundingly rejected similar proposals at the polls, a package of proposed constitutional amendments have been introduced to make Ohio the 29th state to enact "right to work."

### **OHIO VOTERS WILL HAVE MULTIPLE CANDIDATES TO CHOOSE FROM IN 2018**

Ohio faces a mixed bag of political races this year, with contests ranging from governor all the way down to local judgeships and leadership of the Lucas County Republican Party.

### **EDITORIAL: OPIOID AID FOR OHIO'S TOWNS**



Ohio, especially small-town Ohio, is now enduring a sociological and budgetary perfect storm.



**From:** Miller, Brad

**Sent:** Monday, January 8, 2018 4:56 PM

**To:** Best, Carolyn; Westlake, Libby; Adams, Alexandra; Slack, Cora; Crock, Sarah

**Subject:** ALERT: Week in Review (sending tomorrow at 11)

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up

**Flag Status:** Flagged



## OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Majority Communications Department*

# GOP Week in Review

12/31/17 – 1/7/18

**WKSU: Ohio's Year in Review 2017: Changes to education policy**

"Looking back, basically a time of transition and a time of starting to listen to what's going on in the field and starting to implement common-sense reforms as opposed to just mandates that people can't necessarily comply with," Brenner said.

**Sandusky Register: Busy year for Shores & Islands**

In April we were proud to provide support to the governor's office, city of Sandusky, Cedar Point, state Sen. Randy Gardner, state Rep. Steve Arndt, TourismOhio and others in hosting the governor's State of the State address at the Sandusky State Theatre.

**The Advertiser-Tribune: SRPC, elections board ready to go**

Reineke presented an Ohio flag and a U.S. flag that were flown over the state capitol building Dec. 19 as a gift to the elections panel. "I'm very happy to be here," he said. "We've all got to keep working together to make great things happen."

**WOSU: Ohio lawmaker pushes for harsher penalties for parolees who fail drug tests**

Republican state Rep. Niraj Antani, the bill's sponsor, wants to create more access to treatment facilities and says jails should not be used as detox centers. "But until that time, jail is simply the best place for someone to detox and to be safely placed if they are (using) heroin and fentanyl - until we can figure out something else for them," Antani said.

**Mansfield News Journal: Community honors law enforcement with 'Spread the Light'**



The evening ended with state Rep. Mark Romanchuk, R-Ontario, counting down to officers switching on the lights and sirens in more than a dozen police vehicles to officially "spread the light" and start the week.

**Associated Press: Proposed Ohio law would prevent forced nurse overtime**

State Rep. Robert Sprague, a Findlay Republican, said he's concerned that exhausted nurses working long hours can lead to preventable medical errors. "It's a recipe for problems," Sprague told The Dayton Daily News.

**Findlay Courier: Sprague bill would ban forced nurse OT**

A bill introduced in the Ohio House by state Rep. Robert Sprague, R-Findlay, would prohibit hospitals from requiring a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse to work overtime as a condition of employment.

**Wilmington News Journal: Guest column from Speaker Cliff Rosenberger: Buckeye Pathway guides policy**

This member-driven document outlines our priorities and serves as a roadmap to three objectives: improve Ohio's economic environment, enhance opportunities for all Ohioans, and strengthen families and communities. Halfway through this term, we have approved more than 30 bills that align with these principles.

**Toledo Blade: Republican lawmakers push to make Ohio "right to work"**

The resolutions are sponsored by state Rep. John Becker (R., Cincinnati) and state Rep. Craig Riedel (R., Defiance). ... "It's not so much that I'm opposed to unions," Mr. Riedel said. "I believe strongly that employees ought not to be required to pay fair-share fees if they choose not to join that union. If that individual chooses not to be a part of that union, they're on their own. They would not get any representation whatsoever by that collective-bargaining agreement."

**Your News Now: HB 336 plans to help Ohioans with suspended licenses**

"This would help reduce the number of suspensions the bureau has to keep track of, it would also provide an incentive for a person to get insurance, get their license reinstated, and be able, if you're not able now to find a job because of lack of transportation, to be able to do that," said Rep. Bob Cupp, 4th District Rep for the State of Ohio.



**From:** Gongwer News Service  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 9, 2018 8:31 AM  
**To:** Best, Carolyn  
**Subject:** Ohio Media Clips, Tuesday, January 9

## Unsubscribe

It appears that you have subscribed to commercial messages from this sender. To stop receiving such messages from this sender, please unsubscribe



## NEWS

////////////////////////////////////  
**Dennis Kucinich files paperwork to run for Ohio governor (Associated Press, 1/9/2018)**

**Lawmaker touts life change since his impaired driving arrest (Associated Press, 1/9/2018)**

**Ohio bans sale of dozens of invasive plants under new rules (Associated Press, 1/9/2018)**

**Dennis Kucinich to run for Ohio governor (Cincinnati Enquirer, 1/9/2018)**



**Mandel replacers: Latest update on who's in, out (Cincinnati Enquirer, 1/9/2018)**

**Proposed Ohio law would prevent forced nurse overtime (Cincinnati Enquirer, 1/9/2018)**

**Dennis Kucinich files paperwork for potential gubernatorial run (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/9/2018)**

**Former Cleveland Councilman TJ Dow may seek Ohio House of Representatives seat (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/9/2018)**

**Ohio still has a political gender gap, but not in the race for governor: A Woman's Place (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/9/2018)**

**Dennis Kucinich will join Ohio governor's race next week (Columbus Dispatch, 1/9/2018)**

**If Trump says to jump, Renacci will run for Senate instead of governor (Columbus Dispatch, 1/9/2018)**

**Justice O'Neill to announce running mate Tuesday in governor's race (Columbus Dispatch, 1/9/2018)**

**Ohio sued over racial quota on marijuana growing licenses (Columbus Dispatch, 1/9/2018)**

**10 Ohio professions that require licensing: Are they needed? (Dayton Daily News, 1/9/2018)**

**Democratic governor candidate Bill O'Neill to announce running mate (Dayton Daily News, 1/9/2018)**

**Group pushing ballot measure to increase regulation of puppy mills (Dayton Daily News, 1/9/2018)**

**If Trump asks, Renacci may run for Ohio's U.S. Senate seat (Dayton Daily News, 1/9/2018)**